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THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

THE CONSEQUENCE OF SKATES.

There is a little foot
That I know of somewhere,
I wish I were twelve
To ail I might freeze it there,

There is a little hand
In which careening eager;
And if I were Jack Frost
I think I'd pinch a finger.

There is a smiley mouth,
Where ribbons bonbons mingle;
I wish I were the cold
To bite a little into tingle.

There is a pair of eyes
Overhung with tresses golden:
I wish I were the veil
To be so near beholden.

There is an angel face
With an angel bonnet;
I wish I were a snowflake storm,
To melt by flakes upon it.

There is a little heart
My heart strokes each minute;
Am I would give the world
To win it—only win it.

There is a little girl
Whom some one loves forever but;
And if I were her skates,
I never should wear out.

TO MOSCROW.

We can't recall the vanished past,
Nor can we blithe reckon
The light we get hence, flying past,
Us to embrace them beckon.

No more let folly shroud thine eyes;
Like white'ning dawn, let the day
What it con setting sun should rise
To warm thy heart and make ease

Life is not given, 'tis but lent;
And thousands ye would borrow,
For be, the present, thine misspent,
A day of grace to morrow.

O day of hopes! O day of fear!
O day of joy or sorrow
That comes on things ever near,
To-morrow! still to-morrow!

THE PULPIT.

Preached by Henry Ward Beecher, on Sunday Evening, December 30, 1866, in Plymouth Church, Brook yn.

"I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; and lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down." Prov. xxiv. 30, 31.

Undoubtedly this was designed, originally, to show the results of simple idleness; but nothing is more in accordance with Scripture usage than to consider weeds as the representations of faults. And so I propose to do to-night.

In husbandry, neglect is equivalent to the destruction of harvests. It is not needful that one should sow bad seed to insure bad crops. One has but to let nature have its way, and he will be certain to have weeds enough. Weeds destroy crops by keeping off the sun and air, and by exhausting the nourishment from the soil. Weeds are mortal enemies to the harvest. Therefore Christ said, in teaching, that the seed that fell upon thorny ground was choked by the thorns which sprung up. In like manner, faults of character are weeds which spring up and choke out virtues, and frequently take their place.

It is difficult to define exactly what we mean by a *fault*. A fault is rather a depression, which is nearly correct, that it is a minified sin; that it is something irregular, but that it lacks in magnitude or intent something of that which is necessary to constitute a positive sin. In many instances faults are simply irregularities in execution, or mere inattentions, negations, and almost always have this quality of being indistinctual, not intentional, not purposed, or the result of passion.

There are a great many who suppose that there is a merit in faults. That is, they do not discriminate very wisely. It is true that perfect people are the most disagreeable and intolerable people in the world—those so-called perfect people who are under not to speak wrong never speak at all, and in order not to do wrong do nothing; those cold, precise, inelastic, hard smooth, polished people, that seem to be so perfect to be by themselves. It is true that you hunger and thirst for something more than any one of these; like grapes on thorns or figs on thistles, and people say that they would not want a man to have fewer faults, *because* there is a kind of robustness that they give.

Now, there may be certain sorts of faults of which this is true—faults of manner, faults of irregularity; but this ought not to blind us to the fact that faults are sins, and the effects of faults that are seated on conscience: that involve principle: that touch the question of honesty and of selfishness: that have in them certain relations to the waste or the supply life; that run their roots even deeper, and touch the very seat of honor, and, one may say, of character and salvation.

One of the reasons why faults are so frequent, and so little considered, must be of course in general imperfection of human nature. But the unconsciousness of men as to the details of their life while they are pursuing weighty matters—this also is a reason of the faults of men are those subjects. They are unconscious of them largely because there is very little true friendship that takes upon itself the offices of true friendship, that will tell what makes the household so invaluable. The father and mother love their children so much that they will not tell them their faults, at any rate till their children get so old that they know more than their parents—or think they do. There is a fidelity possible in the home that is not risking friendship, without risking love.

And there is another kind of discipline besides this of love—that in the school, and that in public affairs, where the boys and young men are thrown together, the attrition, the intercomparison, the angry taunt, very soon makes men aware of those faults as they are apt to be disclosed in the social circle. But there is very little friendship aside from that of the family which teaches a man after he gets out of the school and the family what his faults are. How many persons do you know, each of you, to whom you would go and ask, "Will you tell me honestly what you think are my principal faults?"—that is, persons that you think have sagacious judgment enough to know, and persons that are so kind that you can afford to look them in the face. There is such a command in the word of God, "Confess your faults one to another;" but for the most part we are too selfish, and the Christian duties of life are not the inculcated and practiced in social relations, that one does not dare to confess his faults to his neighbor. He says, "I should be but putting a club in his hand, and by and by he would strike me with it. He would get angry with me, and the facts would come out. Or, there would be a competition in business, and he would use them to my disadvantage. It is not safe." And the judgment is right. There are very few people that it is safe to trust. There are very few men whose judgment of your faults is one that it would be safe for you to trust. And so from these various infirmities of men we grow up to the evil-doing faults. Many of them reach to the very vital points of character. And no man speaks to us of them. Men are surprised if we indicate faults, and ought to learn them, and we are more surprised than any other can be.

Now, it seems to me as though it was a desirable thing, once in a while, for the pulpit to undertake to enlighten men—especially the young—in these matters. For, although it would be impossible, except in one instance out of a long series of discourses, it should take up faculty by faculty, and show what is the normal activity of each particular faculty, and then what are the infirmities and faults which cluster round each—although it would not be possible, except in such a series, to undertake to exhaust men's faults, and although it would not be needful, yet such a delineation of them, such a classification, as shall convey to your mind the idea of them in classes, puts you in possession of his means of searching out your own faults, learning their nature, and striving against them.

I propose, then, rather in an outward order, in an empirical method, to take up in groups the faults to which the young are more signally liable, and point them out.

I. I may mention faults of temper, anger, irritableness, peevishness, moroseness—but those more potential and disastrous forms of temper, but those which infest every day, and these in cold life in east winds, bringing chill rather than storm. More than any other feeling, temper depends upon the conditions of health. It is very largely the result of irregularity of the physical system, and is to be trained against by sanitary laws. Yet we are not to excuse ourselves on that ground, because the most inveterate men in this regard find that when they are in the presence of those whose opinion they respect, and whose good will and praise they long for, know how to restrain their temper. Vanity can restrain it. Or, when they are in the presence of those who have their interest in their power, and they wish to conciliate them, and so maintain their own interest, they can restrain their temper. Self-interest can restrain their temper. Men say, to one another, "You have temper, but in certain lines I know how you how to take care of it. I notice that when you can gain a bargain by it, or where there is a motive for doing it, you can take care of your temper." And this represents a certain meanness in it. For, if by these lower selfish instincts you know how to restrain your temper, why not by conscience?

It is supposed that these ebullitions and disclosures of temper, are petty insignificant faults; but I cannot consider the opening of a fountain of unhappiness in the family or in the social circle a petty matter. A single instance may be excused but the habit of being peevish, sulky, and morose—this is not a petty fault. It rises to the dignity of an ample and multitudinous sin. For nothing destroys happiness around about men more than a bad temper. It is in the power of one person in a family to keep that family in smoke all the day long.

There are certain peculiarities of bad temper. It usually vents itself on the weak, and those that are not able to help themselves. Our peevishness generally works down to our inferiors and subordinates and dependents. It is also an infliction upon our friends; for we take it for granted that they love us well enough to bear it. We are often peevish and snappish toward them, when we would not be toward others. Toward superiors we are seldom liberal and free with our temper; but toward those that are below us in life we do not mind it much. Many persons, it seems to me reserve all their frets during the day; they almost do not dare to be cross in the presence of customers and superiors; they bottle up their temper and save it till they get home; and then it is a household confection! it is a luxury of the family.

Now it may seem like a small thing, but it is not a small thing. Small, it is, justas an aphis is small; but in the summer aphides multiply by millions, and creeping on the buds over the trees and weigh them down, and suck the life-juice out of them; and though each one is small, a million of them put together are not small. And so it is with petty faults of temper. If is very largely the result of irregularity of the physical system, and is to be trained against by sanitary laws. Yet we are not to excuse ourselves on that ground, because the most inveterate men in this regard find that when they are in the presence of those whose opinion they respect, and whose good will and praise they long for, know how to restrain their temper. Vanity can restrain it. Or, when they are in the presence of those who have their interest in their power, and they wish to conciliate them, and so maintain their own interest, they can restrain their temper. Self-interest can restrain their temper. Men say, to one another, "You have temper, but in certain lines I know how you how to take care of it. I notice that when you can gain a bargain by it, or where there is a motive for doing it, you can take care of your temper." And this represents a certain meanness in it. For, if by these lower selfish instincts you know how to restrain your temper, why not by conscience?

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1867.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ROME.

The inquiry arose instantly in Congress, when informed that American citizens had been forbidden liberty of conscience in Rome, Why should the American people be at the expense of keeping up a diplomatic establishment in a country which refuses them the commonest and most important of their rights? A prominent object of having government representation in foreign countries is, to secure, under treaties, to our citizens abroad, their personal and civil rights. If they do not answer this purpose, they should be abandoned as a useless expense to the people.

If Rome is a civil government, among the nations of the earth, its treatment of our citizens within its bounds is, of course, or ought to be, defined by treaty, and it should be held like other governments to the fulfilment of its obligations. If, according to the *Freeman's Journal*, Rome is only a church, then it is a pertinent inquiry, Why should the American people be at the expense of keeping up a diplomatic establishment in and with reference to a church in a foreign country? And if with one, why not with all churches? And if with churches abroad, in foreign countries, why not with those in our own country? But the pretense of the *Journal* does not represent the case truly. It is but one of a thousand instances, in which the equivocal character of the Roman government—an anomalous compound of civil and ecclesiastical powers—has afforded opportunity to give prominence to the one or the other of these constituent powers, as might suit the occasion. It suited the argument of the *Journal* for the occasion to call Rome a *church*; it suits the Pope and the advocates of the "temporal power," to remind VICTOR EMANUEL and the European Kings, that Rome is a *State*.

Well, whatever advantage it may be to Rome, to maintain this sort of amphibious life, it does not suit the genius of our Government or people, to maintain diplomatic relations with any church; nor with a State, which denies or deprives our citizens transiently within its power of their personal rights and liberties. It would be a standing disgrace in the eyes of the world, should we do so. The case is a plain one. If the Papal States are a civil government, the treatment of our citizens within its jurisdiction is, or should be, a matter defined in treaty stipulations. And if the American citizen cannot have his rights of person and conscience respected there, there is no use and no propriety, but the contrary, in keeping up a show of representation there. In our relations with other countries, even with China and Japan, we believe, these right are guaranteed. Why should an exception be made in favor of the arrogant pretensions of one of the smallest and most inconsiderable of foreign governments? Or, if made by its own action, why should our country become accessory to its own disgrace, by continuing its diplomatic relations with it?

BRITISH INFLUENCE IN AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

Politically the United States is independent of Great Britain, but in the political economy of the nation, the English exert a vast influence, which, in some respects, keeps us in a position but little short of vassalage. Before the revolution Britain did not hesitate to enact laws in Parliament for the avowed purpose of suppressing manufactures in America. Since then she has at various periods accomplished the same purpose so profitable to herself by influence in our Congress. We do not mean to say that her manufacturers, or her diplomatists, bribe Congressmen with money—for we are unwilling to believe such a thing to be possible. The Canadian Parliament voted one hundred dollars to prevent the repeal of the so-called Reciprocity Treaty, but the object was not accomplished. British influence has heretofore been exerted by more artful means than direct bribery. Hundreds, if not thousands of agents or partners of British manufacturers, are busy in the dissemination of specious arguments in the interest of their trans-Atlantic employers or partners, and hundreds of their customers are bribed by special advantages, not shared by the average public, which operate as to their origin, and blinded as to their purpose. At Washington City the ostensible representatives of the British Government are the Minister and his subordinates—but at the chief hotels and boarding places of Congressmen, are always found those who are more effectual promoters of British interests than the diplomatic corps. They are pleasant gentlemen who dine with Congressmen, Treasury officers and the like, when occasion offers in response to their seeking, and are liberal in dealing the wines. Nor do they confine their attentions exclusively to high livers. Many a staid M. C. has received the inspiration of his free trade opinions from the agreeable chat of his well informed hotel friend, who, if not a British in fact, is one by nature and pay.

The Revenue Commission which but lately reported, has—we venture to surmise—seldom been out of hearing or out of sight of these kindly advisers. Even on his late tour for the purpose of reaching a proper knowledge of the requirements of the industry of the country, Mr. WELLS was accompanied by Englishmen and some of their New York assistants, as if to guard him against reaching just conclusions which would be adverse to the interests of British manufacturers. One of these gentlemen even made a free trade speech in Pittsburgh. He expressed views which, if adopted, would in two or three years utterly impoverish three-fourths of the people of the city, and to a corresponding extent increase the prosperity of the workmen and mill owners of similar localities in England. We do not blame the English gentlemen for doing their best, and do not censure Mr. WELLS for his politeness to them, which aided to send them home with very kindly ideas of American resources and people, and awfully afraid that we would suffer from not understanding our own interests. Last winter a memorial was sent to Congress from the East, professedly for the purpose of encouraging the construction of American railroads, and showing great concern lest the development of the West and South should be delayed by the increase of the tariff on railroad iron. It turned out to be the work of English mill owners and their commission merchants in New York. Their real concern was to mislead Congress in such manner as would secure to their employers the greatest profit and to themselves the largest commissions. One would suppose that Congressmen and Treasury officers would promptly set aside the advice of parties whose interests cannot but be adverse to those of America.

The ordinary self respect would reject the officiousness of foreign advisers, common sense would distrust them, and common appreciation of the duties of an officer of republican America, would teach that the Congress of the United States must legislate for the benefit and prosperity of American citizens as against all other peoples on the face of the earth. The time is not far off when this subject will be fully understood by the people, and then—woe to the politician who in the present day shall have shown himself to be susceptible of British influences by voting in favor of British free trade measures.

A SCRAP OF HISTORY.

The Mobile *Tribune*, in an article under this heading, makes a recent article in a Northern journal the occasion for referring to the exploits of the Merrimac, in Hampton Roads, on the 8th and 9th of March, 1862, for the purpose, as the writer says, of correcting some statements therein. The writer then proceeds to "give a brief narrative of the occurrences of the two days," as they were impressed on his memory by actual observation. In some respects it is a fancy sketch, containing enough of fact, however, to make it interesting, and to some extent valuable. The writer makes one statement which bears directly on a point in regard to which there has been nothing certain. Having narrated the quick, savage and total destruction of the glorious old frigate Cumberland—whose gallant going down will never be forgotten—and of the preparations during the night—that night of the arrival, apparition rather, of the first monitor—for resuming the fight in the morning, the writer says: "It had been discovered during the night "that the Virginia (the Confederate name "of the Merrimac,) was *leaking badly*, her "prow, which was under water, having "been wrenched off, and there being *several shot holes in her hull below the armor*."

This is important, for, if reliable, it proves that the Merrimac, of the invulnerability of which so much has been said, was almost fatally disabled in her first encounter with wooden ships; and that, too, under circumstances when the advantages were all on her side. We believe this statement has not before been made—the leaking condition of the Confederate ram being located on the evening of the day following, after the famous fight with the Monitor and the grounded and demoralized frigate Minnesota.

The Mobile writer's account of the thrilling scenes of the second day, cannot be reconciled with the idea of personal observation or regard for truth. He says, "for two or three hours the duel was kept up," at the conclusion of which "the Monitor finally retired in silence from the fight;" after which event the "Virginia kept up her fire on the Minnesota for a full half hour without receiving a reply;" and the writer adds, had this fire been continued fifteen minutes longer the commander of the Minnesota would have blown her up!

This is all fancy. The fight, or "duel," lasted nearly twice as many hours as the writer says—which is not material, how-ever—and the Confederate ship and not the Monitor that retired. For some time the antagonists had been deliberately firing at short range—the grounded Minnesota all the while, at a range varying from three quarters of a mile to a mile and a half, delivering her thundering broadsides—when the Confederate began deliberately to withdraw toward Craney Island—the Monitor sauclily following. It was during this closing and exhilerating scene that the gallant WORDEN was disabled by a parting solid shot from the Confederate striking the Monitor's look-out. Through blinded and stunned, he had the presence of mind to give an order to the second officer, who continued the pursuit, firing several times, and followed the Confederate till she disappeared, in a sinking condition, with the Yorktown and Jamestown—which for the most part had been silent spectators, (thanks to a remarkable shot by Captain BOYLOR from the twelve-inch rifled gun on shore, at a range of more than three miles,) beyond the rebel batteries of Craney Island.

It is undeniable that the Merrimac went out of the fight in a sinking condition, and that in consequence of injuries she had received she was immediately docked at Norfolk. The accounts of the extent of the injuries were received in the Sunday fight with the Monitor and Minnesota, the officers of the latter—without wishing to detract a particle from the exploits of the former—maintaining that it was the constant delivery of her solid shot on the sides of the Confederate that sprung her ribs and caused her to leak.

The Merrimac was an extremely formidable and dangerous ship, but the fact of her being disabled so early in her career, proves that her qualities were exaggerated—the very natural consequence of her first dash, which resulted in the surprise and destruction of the frigates Cumberland and Congress.

So far as we know, this memorable naval encounter has not been fully described from the Union stand point. There were some details and incidents connected with the management of our fleet then in the Roads, and some things that happened on the day following, after the famous fight in no published report, and which would be necessary to a faithful narrative of this famous passage in the history of the rebellion.

IS THERE LAND AHEAD?

The development in the recent debates in Congress and the manifestations at the Capital, have given birth in the minds of many to the hope that, after all, the co-ordinate branches of the Government may harmonize in the delayed work of restoration. The country has waited a long time for such a state of things, and so far as the indications favoring it are real they are justly the occasion for rejoicing. So far as we are able to discern, the hope of a favorable issue is based chiefly on the understood willingness of the President to yield and "meet Congress half way," coupled with what has been seen of a corresponding disposition on the part of Congress itself. We do not understand that Congress proposes to yield anything that is essential to the safety of American life and property, and consent to such a course of action as will allow every obstacle that can, without a sacrifice, be removed. In the nature of the case, the concession must be chiefly on the part of the President; and if what is reported concerning him may be relied on, this he fully realizes.

It is something—the main thing in fact—to bring about this essential preliminary state of feeling—consent to make a trial, in good faith, for harmonious action. This is the necessary condition precedent, and when, as in this case, it is the result of repeated attempts and re-openings of failures, and the realization of the urgency of the case, it forms the very best ground of expectation and is an auspicious forerunner of good results.

Precisely how far there has been an approach to an understanding, we have no means of knowing; but the reports, speeches and votes in Congress during the past week, leave little doubt on the mind that when General BANKS said he believed harmony between Congress and the President was not impossible, he meant to indicate that such a thing was highly probable. In this view of the case, the few days that remain of the present session will be full of interest.

THE SEWARD-MOTLEY-McCRACKEN CORRESPONDENCE.

It is among the statements from Washington that revelations are to be made touching the SEWARD-MOTLEY-MCCRACKEN correspondence which will relieve the Secretary of all responsibility in the premises. And the fact that the note to Mr. MOTLEY bearing Mr. SEWARD's signature is dated on the day his daughter, Miss FANNIE SEWARD, died, is referred to as key to the proposed revelations. The Springfield, Mass., *Republican*, which makes the suggestion, thinks it "quite natural to suppose, under these circumstances, that the President dictated the letter to Mr. MOTLEY to a clerk of the State Department, and, being presented with other papers for Mr. SEWARD's signature on that day of absorbing grief, that it received his name, with all the rest of the documents, without any one of them being read by him. If these prove to be the facts of the case, it will form a curious item in our political history. There is at least nothing impossible or inconsistent in this explanation; on the contrary, it is a very natural and plausible story, particularly in that it attributes to the President, in spirit and in form, and not to Mr. SEWARD, the letter to MOTLEY. For that document was as like the one, as it was unlike the other."

MR. PEABODY, whose munificence has shed a lustre on the American name, in the recent interview with the President took special pains, in connection with the remark that his last donation was made at a peculiarly opportune time, to express the belief "that the country would soon be reunited to harmony, and that no discord or ill feeling would prevail between sections." Concerning the feeling in England towards this country he said, "whatever might have been the course of England in the past, the present desire, from Queen down to peers of the realm, and down through all the masses of the people, was that good will and friendly relations might exist, and that old wounds might be healed."

The spirit manifested by MR PEABODY cannot fail of contributing largely to the happy state of things of which he so confidently speaks, as it has in England assisted to produce the kindly relations he so happily describes.

KEEPING up former regularity, reports of Cabinet changes are renewed. The retirement of Mr. SEWARD is spoken of as probable, and Mr. ADAMS, Minister to England, is mentioned as his successor. The withdrawal of Mr. STANTON from the Cabinet is again revived, with General GRANT as his successor, as acting Secretary of War ad interim. It is expected that Mr. STANTON will be offered the mission to Russia, or probably the mission to Spain.

THE bankrupt bill is likely to become a law. The favorable action yesterday by the Senate will send it to the President, who is not likely to veto it. It is a measure of great importance, present and prospective.

THE RIGHT GROUND.

The meeting of citizens of Fayette county, the proceedings of which were published in the COMMERCIAL yesterday, in favor of the Connellsville Railroad bill and a General Railroad Law, took the right ground by adopting the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That, irrespective of party, we will hereafter go against any man for any office, State or National, Who votes in favor of the monopoly, and against the people."

The time has fully come for independent action and speaking. There seems to be no other way to secure emancipation from the power which is above the Legislature.

THE report that General BUTLER had relinquished the impeachment business was erroneous. Good authority represents that he is as much devoted as ever to impeaching Mr. JOHNSON, and that it can be done by June. It is understood that his experienced colleagues, Messrs. BANKS, HOOPER, WASHBURN, BALDWIN and DAWES do not fully agree with him in this line of policy.

THE President is ready to meet Congress half-way. After a few more turns of the impeachment screw, he may conclude to come over entirely. Though not deeply impressed with Mr. JOHNSON's sincerity or reliability, we cannot help looking upon his offer to meet Congress half-way as indicative of failing courage on his part and a better prospect for the country.

PERSONAL.

—Pike, of Pike's Opera House, has fairly outwitted and astonished New York. While the statements continually being made of his intention to erect a large building for musical and dramatic purposes were treated by the press of that city as so much idle rumor, he was working quietly but as industriously as a beaver, and the other day, to the utter astonishment of everybody, including the enterprising daily press, it was discovered by accident he had the affair more than half finished. To surprise them still more, if possible, he has chosen a location a considerable distance up town and a long way from association or contiguity with any other place of entertainment. The *World* gets mad at its own bamboozlement and rather sneers at the future prospects of the enterprise.

—Among the arrivals at the Fifth Avenue are the Lees, the Randolphs, the Harrisons, the Bollings, the Pages, the Carters, and many other prominent families of the South. The late allusions to her history by the *North American Review* have excited a suspect of indignation, and they are rallying to the defense of "the Princess Rebecca," as they are pleased to call her. The case affords them another illustration of the aggressiveness of the inevitable Yankee. Even the Union flag, which once has torn away our flag, and may tear away our Constitution, but, thank God, he can never tear away the precious memories of our people." What a precious memory, to trace one's descent to try up to a dirty young squaw, who used to turn somersaults all round the barrack yard at Jamestown, and that, too, in her usual primitive costume!

—Sir Frederick Bruce, the handsome, hearty British Minister in Washington, is popularizing himself among the leading ladies of Washington by taking them sleighriding in his magnificent four horse cutter. Like most English men of his class, he always drives himself and is said to be a consummate artist in that. True English fancy is not always understood by people of other countres. Many will remember the intense disgust infused in the breast of a distinguished representative from the West, when he saw Sir John Crampton—who had a coloring matter—expressed it, "driving that dod durned nigger about."

—The question of extending the elective franchise to women in England has been agitated for some time past. Its latest champion is the *Westminster Review*.

—Commodore Vanderbilt testified before a New York legislative committee that his days were given to business and his evenings to whist, and that he never allowed his business to encroach on his whist hours. The Commodore plays whist "short," the same as he does stocks. Wins by "tricks"—doesn't care for "honors" at all.

—MRS. LUCIA G. Calhoun, Washington correspondent of the *Tribune* says that a certain Mrs. —— was a chambermaid in her youth. Now this delicately nurtured creature is unable to dress or undress herself, even to lacing her own clothes, although perfectly able to endure any amount of dissipation. She is very aristocratic. Who can she mean?

—Mons. Alex Dumas says somewhere: "Sooner than have a sullen looking person about me —even though he were a king—I would on my knees to him and say, tell me what your grievance is, and it shall be removed though it cost me half my fortune." Then would Alexander be an ass. The sensible course to be pursued would be to discharge the sulky servant and hire one with a more cheerful countenance.

—Thomas W. Knox, on his Russian telegraph voyage for the *Herald*, writes from Irkoutsk, Eastern Siberia—the exact antipodes of New York—that he is "now in a country, American in that far away place will, he says, compare favorably with Delmonico's."

—Barnum has ordered soup to be distributed to the poor in various portions of the city free of charge. He promises to organize agencies for the distribution of bread and fuel. Splendid advertisement, Barnum.

—It is whispered, says the *Court Journal*, that a young boy called to high destinies stubbornly refuses to study the maps. When pressed to explain the reason the pupil exclaimed: "Oh, the map has so often changed of late years, and I hope (Napoleon III?) says it can't be changed again, *Ou bono* to learn it as it stands now?" What good indeed? Think how it may be changed, boy, when papa dies—changed for you especially.

—Jacob Stout, of Van Amburgh's menagerie, is now exhibiting at Niblo's, the following recipe for the families of deceased soldiers and for wounded and disabled soldiers, and providing artificial limbs for such as are maimed and not provided for by the United States.

The New York *Gazette* speaks of the revival of an old saying called "Patent Improved Ivory Eye Cups," and warns people to look out for the danger of using them. They are advertised to cure a number of well known diseases of the eye, which the advertisements refer to with a delicacy of reticence truly Grecian in its names. The affair consists of a hollow cup to be pressed upon the eye, a vacuum produced in the cup by previously compressing a small rubber ball attached to the cup. The effect of this is to draw the blood to the eye and assist in its ability to produce it—is like the well known cupping glass. In some cases a temporary increase of strength may be obtained by this stimulus; but the more certain and lasting effect will be inflammation and greater weakness.

Moses Coit Tyler, in a recent lecture, tells of a London cabman with whom he conversed, who had never heard of Oodner nor Washington, but who knew all about "Jack Heenan, who was a mighty fine fighter." Some of our lecturer also related an anecdote of an M. P. who advanced the following brilliant geographical theory in a war argument with an American: "Why, Doctor, is it possible you have never observed so important and suggestive a fact as the geographical separation of the North and the South? Why, there are your Northern States in North America, you know; and there is your isthmus of something or other—a mere connecting thread—below which are your Southern States in South America, so you know —each nation having practically a continent to itself; do you not see that your vain endeavor to subjugate the South flies in the very face of Providence itself?"

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

There was another horrible affray in Chicago on Monday night. Three men were seriously stabbed.

People travel South from Washington, since the ice on the Potomac carried away the railroad bridge and the Long bridge under considerable difficulties. The *Constitutional Union*, of Washington, says the route at present pursued is for travelers to take an omnibus in Washington and ride to the north end of the Alexandria aqueduct—then wheelbarrow transportation is resorted to, and in this manner passengers and baggage cross the Potomac, then horse or foot, or any other kind of locomotion, gets them to Alexandria; and after that, their way South is comparatively smooth. This is a real practical division of North and South. Would it not be a good idea to make reconstruction of the Chain Bridge dependent on that other reconstruction there is so much talk about?

The London *Punch* is very anxious always to record in an appropriate manner changes of fashion. The latest achievement is a picture representing a fashionable and affectionate couple, the husband searching vigorously in his waistcoat-pockets. The wife inquires, "Have you lost your watch, love?" and he replies, "No, darling, 'twas a new bonnet I had for you somewhere."

For some time past, says Galignani, an inferior kind of truffles has been gathered at Etampes, the only quality of which is its size; it has none of the perfume of the Perigord esculent. To impart this odor, the merchants procure from the latter district boxes of the most odoriferous loam in which this highly-prized vegetable is found, and by means of a brush they introduce the earth into the cracks and crannies of the Etampes truffle, and sell them for the real article. If this is the case, we shall have to stop eating our *pates de foie gras* and go back to pork and beans.

Some wag played a good joke on the members of the Kentucky Legislature in making them believe that a bill that had passed the lower house for the encouragement of the production of chickens and eggs was really designed for the establishment of a cock-pit in Louisville.

The Oyster War, for which Virginia is continually famous, is said to be at present on the brink of a new campaign. The State levies a tax on every bushel of oysters shipped North; the Northern oyster dealers will not pay as much a bushel as the tax amounts to, and the Southern producer has either to go out of business or cheat the revenue; and all the parties concerned denounce the tax as "mean" and "unconstitutional." This oyster business will never be settled until the bardy delvers for that delicious bivalve assert their rights by force; in other words go in on their "muscle."

The Chicago *Republican* publishes a romance of real life, of which the heroine is a loyal Southern lady who married an ex-rebel officer and with him passed through the vicissitudes of fortune, until she had to do sewing and he follow the trade of a lock smith for a living. A few days ago the lady received information that property belonging to her late father, in Alabama, and valued at a quarter of a million, was awaiting claim at his disposal. Her husband's sewing machine and the tools of the husband's craft were speedily cast aside, and the happy couple sped South to take possession of their princely inheritance.

A new trial has been granted, on application of the plaintiff in the Stewart divorce case, on, as counsel for the defendant say, a mere dry point of law, relating to a single instruction given to the jury on the late trial. We are glad to say that the counsel thereupon withdrew their application to accept it by their decision that with other propositions that it does not make a difference to friends of the great congressional plan of last summer. If, when Congress came together in December, he had said [illegible] victorious, I will not be your friend any longer against the will of the loyal States, and will join with the South in carrying on the war, and will use all the influence I possess to have it accepted at the South," he would have split the Republican party as it never will be split. Besides it with other propositions that it does not make a difference to friends of the great congressional plan of last summer. If, when Congress came together in December, he had said [illegible] victorious, I will not be your friend any longer against the will of the loyal States, and will join with the South in carrying on the war, and will use all the influence I possess to have it accepted at the South," he would have split the Republican party as it never will be split. There is a conservative Republicans would have joined him and many radicals, even. Why, at this day, I believe, Ben Wade holds that it would be advisable to admit to representation any State acting in the amendment's good faith. There are other radicals who occupy the same position.

But the President waited, neglected his opportunity, and now has a string of propositions which Congress will not accept. However he cares very little for Congress, as Congress has to have a new issue for the presidential campaign. He will recommend the new plan in his message on the 4th of March, so it is said, and if the rebel States can be brought to adopt it within the next eighteen months it is expected that the great democratic conservative party, that has died so many times, will make it their platform in the presidential election. If they carry the great State of New York upon it they will triumph, for the New York vote that way it is safe to say that some other States will do the same. Indeed, it is said they will even disown the radicals if their opponents will fight on the platform, but unfortunately Thurlow Weed differs from this opinion. He says they did not prove to be worth anything. No new white Republican party will bring the importance of this new movement, however.

Imports at New York.

The foreign importations at New York, for the week, were as follows: Dry goods, &c., $1,479; general merchandise, $3,314,829. Total $3,-729,308. Among the items are the following: Furs, $24,885; raisins, $29,851; paints, $19,770; jewelry, $7,308; watches, $46,846; hides, $104,087; tin, undressed, $377,849; wines, $24,607; champagne, $46,438; cutlery, $21,446; paper, $96,858; tin, in boxes $83,521; wool, $88,869; tea, $506; sugar, in boxes, $30,908; do. in bags, $46,034; molasses, $98,-795; fancy goods, $81,842; coffee, $390,307.

Soldiers' Orphans of Pennsylvania.

The report of Thomas H Burrowes, Superintendent of Soldiers' Orphans, states that during the past year 14 schools have been established and three additional schools now required, will be organized as soon as possible. There have been admitted during the year 1,967 children, and the total number of scholars on the list of December was 2,668, of which 1,591 were boys and 1,067 girls. These are all cared for until they reach the age of sixteen, when they are discharged, with the judgment that the age of sixteen is something towards earning a livelihood. The total expense of the system for the year ending November 30 was $349,149 26, which is a small sum, when we consider the benefits which are to be derived from it.

Population of Philadelphia.

The *Press* says: The population of Philadelphia is now greater than that of any European city, except London, Paris and perhaps Constantinople. The enumerations and population of the various European cities rank as follows: Berlin, in 1861, 546,571; St. Petersburg, in 1858, 520,191; Vienna, in 1857, 476,222; Liverpool, in 1866, 484,557; Naples, in 1862, 447,095; Glasgow, in 1866 432,255. Philadelphia contained, in 1860, 565,529, and this has since, no doubt, been increased to upwards of 700,000, and may now reach 750,000. The population of London, according to the census taken last year, was 3,037,991, and of Paris, according to the French census of 1866, 1,825,274.

FRAUD ON A LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.—Mrs. Mary Davis, wife of John B. Davis, of Richmond, Indiana, disappeared in the summer of 1865. Soon after a much decayed body was found in a field, and recognized by the clothing as that of Mrs. Davis, the body being too much decayed to admit of identification. Mrs. D. had been insured for $2,000 in the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, and for $5,000 in the New York Life Insurance Company. The latter paid the policy to the guardian of Mrs. Davis's children, but the Connecticut Company held back, suspecting fraud. This prudence has since been rewarded, as we learn from the Richmond *Telegram*. Mrs. Davis and her husband having been found living in Pennsylvania, awaiting the payment of both the policies before moving South. The New York Company has sued the guardian for a return of the money paid.

PENNSYLVANIA OIL FIELD.

The Products of 1865 and 1866—Prospective Yield.

The oil product of the Venango region in 1866 has been variously estimated, ranging from 2,500,000 to 4,000,000 barrels. The Oil City *Register* of Saturday has an article relative to the falling off in the production, in which it says: During the year 1866 the production averaged about 14,000 barrels of crude oil per day from the whole oil region of the United States. This large production was in consequence of the immense expenditure of money by the oil companies formed during the year 1865, as also of the development of territory by private parties. This year the development will be made almost entirely by the latter class, and but to a limited extent compared to the preceding twelve months.

Taking the production of the Venango oil field during 1865, at 12,000 barrels per day, the annual product for 300 working days would be 3,600,000 barrels.

The following table of the production on January 1st, 1867, is made up from the reports of several persons, carefully averaged and which can be fully relied upon for accuracy:

PRODUCTION OF VENANGO OIL REGION, JANUARY 1, 1867.

	Barrels.
Allegheny River	100
Oil Creek below Cherry Run	100
Cherry Run	300
Story Farm and Blood Farms	300
Tarr Farm	600
Scrip Farm	300
Egbert Farm	300
Central Petroleum Farms	200
Newhem Farm	600
Bebner off	600
Phillips Farm	200
Boydal McElheny Farms	550
Bull and Cow Runs	700
Bull and Cow Run and Upper Oil Creek	1,000
Pithole Creek	600
Tidioute and Warren Co	2,000
Total	9,500

Or at the rate of 2,850,000 barrels per year, a falling off in production at the rate of 750,000 barrels per year. The continued investigations of these matters give the next table:

PRODUCTION OF VENANGO OIL REGION, FEBRUARY 1, 1867.

Allegheny River	400 bbls.
Oil Creek below Cherry Run	100 "
Cherry Run	300 "
Steele, Rynd and Blood Farms	250 "
Tarr Farm	500 "
Story Farm	250 "
Egbert Farm	300 "
Central Petroleum Farms	650 "
Stevenson Farm	700 "
Reinhoff Farm	500 "
Porter Run	700 "
Boydal McElheny Farms	700 "
Bull and Cow Runs	900 "
Bull and Cow Run and Upper Oil Creek	900 "
Pithole Creek	600 "
Tidioute and Warren Co	1900 "
Daily production	8,900 "

Equal to an annual production of 2,400,000 barrels, or a further reduction of 1,200 barrels daily and 450,000 barrels per annum. The warm weather and an advance in price of oil will start up enough of the small wells to maintain the daily product at about 8,000 barrels. An experience of five years proves that private enterprise will develope new territory only as fast as the wells of the old lands fail; so we need look for no increased production from these sources.

From these facts we conclude that the market for the world will not exceed 30,000 barrels of petroleum by the end of 1868, to the extent of about one and a half millions of barrels of crude oil, and this low. Without this large allowance for increased consumption in Europe, Asia, or America, when it is well known that its use is rapidly extending.

With such facts before them, wise refiners and dealers will fill their tanks as early as possible. Those who cannot or will not do so, may expect to be offered supplies at two or three or four times the price that have ruled during the past sixty days.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

The United States Supreme Court Sustains the Validity of Bonds and Coupons Issued by Cities and Counties in Aid of Railroads.

The Supreme Court of the United States on Monday last decided the case of the United States *ex rel.* Von Hoffman vs. the city of Quincy, which went up from the Southern District of Illinois. A very important constitutional question was involved and decided. Under the general Railroad law of this State of November 5th, 1850, and of various special laws applicable to the counties in question, authorizing the levy and collection of taxes to pay the interest on any bonds to be issued for railroad purposes, the city of Quincy subscribed for and took a large amount in the shape of certificates of stock in companies, for the payment of which the city issued its bonds with interest coupons attached, and like many other cities and counties, refused the coupons, called upon the city to levy and collect a special tax in accordance with the above named laws. The Legislature on their refusal, commenced a suit in the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Illinois, obtained judgment and execution, and not then being able to obtain payment of the debt, applied for a writ of mandamus to the proper officers of the city, requiring them to levy and collect the tax in question.

The defendant set up by the city was that the laws which authorized the levy and collection of the tax had been repealed by the State Legislature, and consequently the officers could not act.

The fact of the repeal of these laws by the Legislature was not controverted, but it was asserted that the repeal was in fact a law impaired the powers of the officers to levy and collect the tax, was itself void and impairing the obligation of contracts. It was also set up in the prohibitory clause of the Constitution of the United States, and was therefore void and inoperative.

The Supreme Court have decided that the law was in force at the repealing of the last and of the contract, and it could not be affected by legislative action, and consequently the repealing act was void and inoperative, and it was the duty of the officers of the city to proceed to levy and collect the tax required by the original law.

The decision is understood to have been unanimous, and adds another to the many already existing by the Supreme Court which upholds and sustains the obligation of contract even when they are sought to be affected by legislative enactments.

THE PRESIDENT BENDING TO THE STORM.

The Washington correspondent of the Springfield Mass. *Republican* writes as follows: "The President has spent the storm. Public opinion has worried through it, and he evidently is now acting like caustic upon raw flesh. For weeks after the President was signally beaten in the fall elections, he made it his boast that he should not change his positions because the people of the North and West had been unmanned by the artful radicals. He would try it again, and the people would be with him in the Presidential campaign! But while he bragged, the ice of the Potomac, which he had hoped to bridle, came back here as solemn as if he had been at a funeral. His party form was wasted, Chief Justice Chase toiling and moiling to get the President as Mr. Dixon saw that he was near to death—and Secretary Seward, who has used his ability to produce it—is like the well known cupping glass. In some cases a temporary increase of strength may be obtained by this stimulus; but the more certain and lasting effect will be inflammation and greater weakness.

Moses Coit Tylor, in a recent lecture, tells of a London cabman with whom he conversed, who had never heard of Oodner nor Washington, but who knew all about "Jack Heenan, who was a mighty fine fighter." Some of our lecturer also related an anecdote of an M. P. who advanced the following brilliant geographical theory in a war argument with an American: "Why, Doctor, is it possible you have never observed so important and suggestive a fact as the geographical separation of the North and the South? Why, there are your Northern States in North America, you know; and there is your isthmus of something or other—a mere connecting thread—below which are your Southern States in South America, you know —each nation having practically a continent to itself; do you not see that your vain endeavor to subjugate the South flies in the very face of Providence itself?"

STATE ITEMS.

Henry Piffer, a soldier of 1812, and Alderman of the Second ward, Harrisburg, died in that city on Saturday, aged seventy nine years. Deceased was a native of Pennsylvania, and long a resident of Harrisburg.

Governor Geary has made the following Philadelphia appointments:—Flour inspector, Gen. Robert L. Bodine; grain measurer, John H. Gibson; inspector of pickled fish, Geo. Collins; inspector of salted provisions, William J. McCormick; inspector of lumber, Charles C. Overbeck.

John Rush, convicted of burglary in the Erie courts, has been sentenced to four years and two months in the Western Penitentiary in Allegheny. Rush entered the dwelling of Mr. George Hall in Northeast and on being discovered attempted to kill Mr Hall. When captured he confessed his crime, and implicated a well-to do citizen named Hicks.

The revival in Erie conducted by the Passionist Fathers of Pittsburgh, is adding a great many members to the Roman Catholic Church. The Erie *Dispatch* says: As an evidence of the sincerity of their faith, we may state that they cruelly the flesh most literally, wearing sandals and the rough habit of the order. Another paper has said it is reported that when at their own monastery in Pittsburgh the principles a separate cell and sleeps in his own coffin.

Dr. Alfred Creigh, Most Puissant Grand Master of Cryptic Masons of Pennsylvania, last week constituted Conneautville Council No. 28 of Royal Super-Excellent and Select Master Masons. The following companions were chosen officers of the new Council, viz: S. J Thomas, T. I. G Master; D. D Williams, D. I. G Master; E. H Gilbert, P. C of Work; A. L Power, M. of Exchequer; E. L Littenfield, Recorder; N Truesdale, C. of Guard; I. K Kimmph, M. of Ceremonies; F J Klumph, Sentinel.

Michael Shea, of Corry, has received a patent for an improvement in making barrels, which consists in dowelling the staves together, and also in grooving the head so as to leave a shoulder to support the stave above and below the croze groove. The dowels are inserted around the lining circumference. The invention seems to be valuable, as by this mode of manufacture, but four hoops are necessary, which is quite a saving.

Venango county sends the following delegation to the Western Penitentiary, in Allegheny: Jack Shephard, for horse stealing, five years and three months; Wm. Moore, assault and battery, with intent to rape, one year and three months, and Patrick Birmingham, rape, eight years and three months.

George S. Jamison, formerly a resident of Blairsville, Indiana county, died of congestion of the lungs, in Petroleum Centre, on Tuesday last.

Col. Edward O'Brien, formerly of Pittsburgh, now of New Castle, whence he went to the wars during the rebellion at the head of a regiment, met with a sad accident in a foundry at that place on Saturday last. A piece of hot iron, coming in contact with the damp in a ladle, was thrown into his left eye, utterly destroying that organ.

The Lewisburg *Chronicle* says that a township in Union county supports a pauper who is the father-in-law of one of the wealthiest men in the oil regions—perhaps the very wealthiest.

HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 12, 1867.

SENATE.

The speaker presented the reports of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital and Insane Asylum.

Mr. Graham presented the petition of citizens of Fewickley, relative to removing the dead bodies from the graveyards in said boroughs.

Messrs. McConaghy and Stutzman—Petitions in favor of a free railroad law.

Report of Committees.

Mr. Stutzman—Ad act relating to the borough of Washington.

Also, an act for the better pro ecution or disorderly cases in the borough of Monongahela.

Mr. Davis—Act relative to wharfs and landings at Oil City.

Mr. Graham, on behalf of the minority of the Committee on Railroads, presented a report in favor of restoring the charter of the Connellsville Railroad.

Also, a supplement to the Allegheny Skating Park Association.

The act relative to the Connellsville Railroad was called up by Mr. Seawright. Arguments were made in its favor by Mr. Seawright, White and Lowry. Pending discussion, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The following bills on the private calendar were considered and passed:

Supplement South Pittsburgh Gas Company.

Supplement Pittsburgh and Manchester Railway.

The Connellsville Railroad bill was postponed, as the friends of the bill were not prepared. It will come up in regular order next Tuesday.

Pending the discussion of passenger travel on Sunday the House adjourned.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 13, 1867.

SENATE.

Reports of Committees.

Act to enable State banks to settle and close their affairs.

To authorize the School Directors of West Greenville to borrow money.

Mr. Landon, from the Committee on Railroads, reported Senator Bigham's free railroad bill, with amendments. Five hundred copies were ordered to be printed.

There was an effort made to bring up the Connellsville Railroad bill, which Mr. Graham opposed until the arrival of the committee, when he supposed would be appointed by the meeting in Pittsburgh. The resolution to that effect was withdrawn.

Bills in Place.

Mr. Graham—Act to macadamize Temperanceville and Cobblestown Plank Road, and charge the same to the parties benefited.

Mr. Brown, of Mercer—Act relating to auction and freight enterprises in Mercer.

Mr. Shoemaker—Act relative to Connoquenessing Railroad Company.

HOUSE.

The question of Sunday travel in Philadelphia was taken up. Mr. Wilson offered an amendment that colored people should also ride in the cars. Much excited debate on this question which consumed the entire session. The bill finally passed by 58 to 38.

HARRISBURG, February 13.—Gov. Geary has signed the joint resolutions ratifying the Constitutional Amendment.

RECONSTRUCTION.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, February 13, 1867.

The House to-day, after a long struggle, finally passed the bill to provide for the more efficient government of the insurrectionary States by military force, virtually in the shape in which it was reported from the Joint Committee on Reconstruction. Several important amendments were pending to the bill, but the House to-day acted on only one of them. This one was proposed by Mr. Blaine, of Maine, and provided that when the South should ratify the pending Constitutional Amendment and repass State laws providing for universal suffrage, the said States should be entitled to representation. The parliamentary motion was to recommit the bill to the Committee on Reconstruction with instructions to immediately report back this amendment as a substitute for the entire bill.

The vote was taken amid great excitement. On the floor at one time there was hardly a member left in his seat. Groups of members stood talking in groups. The confusion was very great, especially among the Democrats, who it was evident as the roll call proceeded held their balances of power in their hands. Messrs. Brooks, Eldridge, Ingham and Raymond were over on the Democratic side, the latter button holeing nearly every member. At first the Democratic leaders intended to

Weekly Commercial.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Suggestions and Information for the Season.

[From the Gardener's Monthly.]

FRUIT GARDEN.

In those sections of the country which have passed winter's cold and spring winds, general planting will commence. It is best, however, not to be in a hurry; cold winds are very hard on spring planted trees. Whenever planting is done, always shorten in most of the last season's growth. It is through these much of the evaporation takes place that dries up and kills a tree before the new roots are formed. Let it be a rule *never to plant a tree without pruning it.* Some, who get most of their horticultural knowledge in their closets, will object to this, as opposed to theories taught by professors. Never mind. Plant two trees near together: prune one severely, and leave the other unpruned. You will not afterwards feel it a disgrace to be dubbed a "practical gardener."

Never plant on a cold, wind bit ay, and do not plant in frozen or poor, thin soil. *Subsoil, drain* and *enrich*, cannot be keet too prominently before the planter. If the trees grow too luxriantly to bear well after this, it is easily remedied. We can plant dwarf trees, or root prune, or practice summer pinching and training. The last can only be done, successfully, by experts. Where skill cannot be employed, dwarfing and root pruning will be extensively used.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

In the Middle States the work for February will, for the most part, consist of preparations for future operations, and particularly for dealing with the manure question. All those kinds that are grown for their leaves or stems require an abundance of nitrogenous manures; and it is useless to attempt vegetable gardening without it. To this class belong cabbage, lettuce, spinach, etc. The other class, which is grown principally for its seeds or pods, (as beans, peas, etc.,) do not require much manure of this character; in fact, they are injured by it. It causes too great a growth of steam and leaf, and the earliness—a great aim in vegetable gardening—is injuriously affected. Mineral manures, as wood ashes, bone-dust, etc., are much better for them. For vegetables requiring much stable manure, it is better that they have it well rotted and decayed. Nothing has yet been found so well fitted for the purpose as cold hot-bed dung; though, to the smell, no trace of "ammonia" remains in it.

In managing the vegetable garden the highest excellence should be aimed at. This is the chief source of pleasure in a garden. If one's pleasure rests in his garden—if the watching of the beautiful processes of nature in furnishing him food—and the many lessons they teach him, which he in a measure learns can be pleasurably and profitably apply, have no charms or attractions for him, he had better give up gardening; for, assuredly, in most cases—even to 99 in 100 instances—the market gardener will bring the vegetables to his own door cheaper than he can grow them. Amateur gardening should primarily be pursued for the lessons it teaches, and the pleasure it affords when it ceases to do this it should be abandoned.

One of the most interesting parts of a vegetable garden is a hot bed for starting seeds early. The end of the month will be time enough for those who have not command of a large supply of stable manure, as the very low temperature often got at the end of the month, soon absorbs all the heat the hot bed possessed. It is in any event best to put the beds in.

Be warmest and most sheltered spots we can find, and to keep cold winds from the manure, by covering it with branches of trees or mats; and the glass should always be covered with mats at night. Tomatoes, egg plants, peppers and cucumbers, are the first seeds to be sown this way. Cooler frames can be got ready for cauliflower, lettuce, beets, celery and early York cabbage, a little of which may be sown about the end of the month for the earliest crop. The cauliflower is a peculiar vegetable, and no expense spared to get them in perfection will be regretted when one's efforts are successful.

In the open air, should the weather prove favorable, as it often is about the end of the month, peas and potatoes may be planted. Frost seldom gets deep enough in the new dug ground to injure them after this date

In the more southern States the gardener will lose no time in getting in his potatoes, beets, carrots, parsnips, radishes, salsafies, lettuce, onions and salsafy. These should be the first crops put in after the season breaks up for good. The earlier they are in the better. Asparagus, rhubarb and horse radish beds may now be made. Asparagus roots are generally planted too thickly to produce fine shoots: they starve one another. A bed five feet wide should have three rows, and the plants set about eighteen inches apart. A deep soil is very important, as the succulent shoots require every chance they can get for obtaining moisture. About four inches beneath the soil is sufficient to plant them. Rhubarb also requires a deep, rich and moist soil. Horse radish beds are best made by taking pieces of strong roots, about one inch long, and making a hole about a foot or fifteen inches deep, with a dibble, and dropping the piece to the bottom of the hole; a clean, straight root will then rise up through the soil. Crowns or eyes are better than pieces of roots, where they can be had—and a rich, clayey soil better than a light, sandy one.

About the middle or end of the month, or still later in the North—say the middle of March—celery and late cabbage may be sown. Here, we usually sow the second week in March.

In the Northern States, broccoli and cauliflower, when sown in March as recommended, do not head early enough in the Fall. It should be sown about the time of early York cabbage, in the hot-bed, during this month.

GREENHOUSES.

This is the season when many things will require re potting. Many have set a time and season to do this; but some things require re-potting at various seasons. The best time is just before they are about to make a new growth. Camellias, Azaleas, and many plants, for instance, start at this season. It is not necessary to repot so often as some think, especially if bloom, and not very large specimens, is chiefly wanted. If the pot is very full of roots, and the plants growing weak, it may need re-potting.

In potting, see that some provision is made for allowing the water rapidly to escape, by putting broken crocks over the hole. Use soil rather dry, and ram it firmly about the old ball. Prefer pots only a little larger, to very large shifts, as less liable to accidents. Trim the plants in a little, if unshapely, to encourage the new growth where wanted.

Many who have but small houses and wish to have a variety, are troubled with valued plants becoming too large. To keep them low, as soon as the plant has matured its growth, cut it down as low as it may be desired. As it shows signs of breaking forth into a new growth, turn it out of the pot; shake or tear away the old ball of roots and put it into a small a pot as it can be got into; and when it grows again, and fills the pot with roots, repot again as before.

Sometimes the plants get "sick," which is known by unhealthy, yellow leaves. This is usually by overwatering, generating a gas, or, as gardeners term it, a "sourness," destructive to the roots. The remedy is to cut the plant back a little, shake out the soil, and put the plant in a small pot with new soil, and place the plant in a close, moderately warm, and which is naturally moist, so that the plant can live for a while without requiring much water. It will generally recover.

Every one interested in plant growing must be continually on the watch for small insects, which destroy more plants than many are aware of. The little Black Thrip is very troublesome to Azaleas; the green fly to all soft-wooled plants; the scale to Camelias, Oleanders, Cestrums, and the mealy bug to almost all hot house plants. Continual syringings with warm, greasy water, in which sulphur has been mixed, is the best remedy. Tobacco-smoke is still the most approved mode of destroying green fly and thrip.

POTTING STRAWBERRIES FOR FORCING.

For runners of the present year we prefer pots 4½ inches in diameter, well drained, and filled with rich turfy loam beaten firm, and the runners are laid in these in July. We detach the runners from the parent plants in September, keeping off all runners prior to and after this, and place the pots in double lines, on boards 1 foot from a South wall. These are for the early forcing to give fruit in March. The second lot is prepared in the same manner, only we use six-inch pots because we employ larger kinds of strawberries. All after the first and second lots are fruited in six and seven-inch pots. We never pot or plant after September, and place them first in small pots for the successional crops, thence transferring them into fruiting pots as soon as the small pots are filled with roots. We presume your plants are as yet unpotted. The pots we should use would be six inches in diameter, and we take up with balls, and pot firmly. A bed of leaves about eighteen inches high being made, a gentle heat would rise; in this bed we would plunge the pots about half their depth which would excite a speedy root action, and the materials becoming cold in ten days or a fortnight, a frame and lights might be placed over the plants to protect them from wet and severe weather. They will require to be started in January to fruit by the first of April.—*Cottage Gardener.*

EFFECT OF LOCALITY ON FORM OF PLANTS.

Dr. J. E. Gray mentions, in the *Journal of Botany*, that in Pembrokeshire, especially near Broadhaven, the prevailing color of the Primrose is pale lilac, and specimens of this and of the "Primrose" colored varieties may be found growing on the same stone wall (stone walls in this district take the place of hedges), sometimes so close together that they appear to grow from the same root. As other examples of two forms of one plant growing under the same conditions, he further mentions a purple Anemone, which he has found intermingled with the white one in the same tuft; a beautiful pink variety of Wood Sorrel growing amidst the usual white form; and the blue border of the Lamium album, in the midst of beds of the usual color.

RENOVATING SICKLY GRAPES.

Muscat grapes apparently beyond recovery, and in a border permanently wet, were saved by a whole measure, consisting in the making of a new border on the top of the old one, and then planting on the new border Black Hamburghs to serve as healthy feeders to the Muscats. "As soon as these got of sufficient strength to admit of it," says Mr. Clarke, "they were inarched to the stems of the Muscats, and when I saw them, the crop of fruit was then actually receiving its supply of sustenance from the roots of both." We do not say that such a thing has not been done before, for many of our readers can cite examples of vines doing well with two sets of roots. Mr. M'Elroy, of Stamford Hill, has done the same thing, and quite recently, indeed prove a means of curing the shyness or bad ripening qualities of some varieties. But there is originality and ingenuity in adopting this means of raising vines out of a quagmire, for that in effect is the result of the operation, and one of the merits of the plan is that it is carried out on the same border on which through the original vines to ruin.—*Gardener's Weekly.*

SKELETONIZING LEAVES.

The following plan is by Dr. Dickson, of Edinburg:

A solution of caustic soda is made by dissolving 3 ounces of carbonate of soda (washing soda) in 40 ounces (2 pints) of boiling water, and adding 1½ ounces of quick lime, previously slacked; boil for 10 minutes, decant the clear solution and bring it to the boil. During ebullition add the leaves; boil briskly for some time, say an hour, occasionally adding hot water to supply the place of that lost by evaporation. Take out a leaf and put into a vessel of water, rub it between the fingers on the water. If the epidermis and parenchyma separate easily, the rest of the leaves may be removed from the solution and treated in the same way, but if not, then the boiling must be continued for some time longer. To bleach the skeletons, half a drachm of chloride of lime with a pint of water, adding sufficient acetic acid to liberate the chloride. Steep the leaves in this till they are whitened (about ten minutes), taking care not to let them stay in too long, otherwise they are apt to become brittle. Put them into clean water and float them out on pieces of paper. Lastly, remove them from the paper before they are quite dry, and place them in a book or botanical press.

[From Horticulturist.]

STRAWBERRY GROWING.

While we desire as great an increase of extent in fruit-growing as the most enthusiastic, we also think injury rather than good is done to the cause by isolated and, we may almost say, exaggerated statements of the prices received per quart, and the number of quarts produced to the acre. As a good paying crop near a market town, returning, say, one hundred and fifty to two hundred dollars per acre, strawberries can undoubtedly be depended upon; but that $800 to $1,000 can be readily obtained, is one of the statements we do not believe will hold good as a rule, no matter what the cultivation. The sum is plain enough. The land having to be for the country to grow fruit for a support, has need, before embarking too largely, to weigh well all the statements, and to remember that from the gross receipts there are heavy items to be deducted for preparation of land, cost of plants, labor of planting, hoeing, mulching, picking, marketing, baskets, etc., and also that although as a rule strawberries may be claimed as a sure crop, yet there are seasons when the winter has been injurious to the plants, springs when frosts and cold rains have injured the blossoms, and summers when drought has greatly reduced the product, and of all these.

As we before said, we are as anxious as the most enthusiastic to see fruit-growing increase, because the health of mankind is benefited by the use thereof, but we cannot like to see illusive lights held out, when the real practical truths are in themselves sufficient to induce any reasonable person, with but a little love for country life, to engage in its pursuits.

EARLY TYING UP OF GRAPEVINES ON THE TRELLIS.

If there is anything in the theory, that great injury is often caused by extraction of moisture and evaporation when in contact with continual cold, then it is advisable to leave the vines lying upon the ground until after the cold, drying winds of March have passed. As the sensible operation of sap increases, and in March there is more aqueous matter in the vine than in the month of January, and consequently the latter, except in a chance of temperature, and is more affected by cold, drying winds; but to what extent injury is caused by cutting and drying winds at this season, we will not undertake to say. There are those who believe the plant does not come injured by the cold, drying winds in March or April than by the sudden changes of temperature during the regular winter months. Without attempting to prove or disprove the theory, we will say that our own experience for some years has been in favor of leaving our vines on the ground until quite late in the spring. We have sometimes left them until after they had bloomed and set their fruit, and once or twice we have thought that we escaped injury from frosts, and from cold, driving winds and showers, by having the vines on the ground, we having plenty of fruit, when some of our neighbors, whose vines were neatly and carefully tied up, were destitute.

GLASS HOUSES.

There is a too general dread of glass structures among our amateur fruit growers and owners of suburban places, caused, doubtless, by the fussy and complicated rules for their management laid down in most books. A grape house or orchard house for peaches, etc., can be just as easily managed as a vine or peach tree in the open ground, and with an almost certainty in the house of a good crop, because in the house temperature can be controlled, while out of doors it can not. With a house constructed so that ventilation can be had only at the top, there is little fear of any mildew, or other disease, so often destructive to vines in houses constructed with both upper and lower ventilators, and there is no trouble whatever in controlling the temperature. In such houses in the season of frosts) we have seen months pass without the ventilators being disturbed, the temperature being regulated by that outside. The rules for forming borders of rags, old horses, etc., are all humbug; any good rich soil will grow table grapes; and if any enriching material is required, bone meal or well-rotted manure is all that is necessary. In managing, also, the main point is to keep moisture in connection with heat; and as heated air is a deficient of moisture, it will extract it from the vine or tree, unless it can be obtained from the soil; the surface, therefore, should always be allowed to become moderately dry during the period of vigorous growth. After the fruit has commenced coloring, if the soil becomes partially dry, it will not injure it, but will increase the flavor of the fruit better with less moisture during the latter part of the ripening season.

EARLY PEAS.

As soon as the frost is sufficiently out of the ground to enable it to be dug or plowed, it is advisable to prepare for sowing peas. It is not requisite that the soil should be rich, but if deeply stirred and of moderate fertility, the crop will be abundant and long continued. Shallow soils and shallow planting give shallow returns, or, in other words, give dwarf vines, short pods, and but one or two pickings. Of varieties that we have found valuable, Carter's Extra Early, or First Crop, matures early and is productive. Ne Plus Ultra, Philadelphia Early and Prince Albert are all good until Champion of England comes, with which we are satisfied, and continue its use by having succession of plantings to come along in due time one after the other.

SAVE THE WASTE BONES.

There is in almost every family a daily waste of bones, that if saved and applied to the roots of the pear trees and grapevines in the garden, would supply yearly sufficient manure for one hundred plants.

We have seen the roots of a pear tree turn from a two-thirds radius of the circle to embrace and feed upon a few bones that were buried on one side of the tree. Hoare, in his "Treatise on Peaches," gives an account of the roots of the vine passing through dry clay to reach a bone, giving out no lateral or fibrous roots until it reached the bone, which when there, sent out numerous fibers, perfectly extravagant and covering it.

MANURING TREES.

Too many, in applying manure to their fruit trees, forget the position of the roots, and apply within a foot or so of the body. If they were to carefully remove the soil, they would find that trees of vigorous growth, and from seven to ten feet high, have roots, that are really the main sources of nourishment, varying from six to ten feet from the body. The application of manure, therefore, to give the best results, should be distributed around the tree at distances of from five to eight feet from the trunk. In positions where the turf is desired to be maintained, cut and roll it back, put on the manure, fork it in very lightly, and then replace the turf.

THREE WAYS OF GROWING ASPARAGUS.

Among our many asparagus-growing acquaintances there are two who are side-by-side neighbors, and who both grow large and succulant asparagus of the very finest appearances, and yet whose practices are so at variance that we consider them worth record. The one forms his asparagus bed by digging a deep trench, say one foot deep and about eighteen inches wide; into the bottom of this he deposits a coating of well rotted manure, forks it into the soil, and then sets his plants, covering from the side soil. From year to year he adds soil from that thrown out, until the whole has come to a level, when he again forms new beds.

The other practices as follows: He turns over a piece of rich sward, on which he builds twelve and fifteen inches deep of compost, composed of well rotted manure, muck, and rich virgin loam, and on top of this bed he sets his plants.

BEES.

G. W. Green, of Salisbury, thinks there will probably be a great loss of bees in New England, this winter and spring, unless considerable attention is paid to them. They should be continually fed from the last of February till they are able to supply themselves from other sources. After they commence breeding they will consume honey much faster than through the months of December and January. He says he has one hundred and fifty swarms on the Sacramento in California, and that he never allows them to swarm. He thinks dividing better than swarming.

SUPERPHOSPATE.

W. F. O'Neil, of Dover, reports that he used half a ton of superphospate, last season, on two acres of land, which produced the following crop: 764 bushels potatoes, 483 bushels flat turnips, and 252 bushels ruta-bagges. A portion of the potatoes were of an early variety, and the turnip seed was sown after the potatoes were dug.

CURE FOR FROSTED FLESH.

We are informed on good authority that nothing is better for withdrawing the frost without injury to frozen ears, cheeks and fingers, than the immediate application of kerosene, rubbing it on gently a few times. In one instance both cheeks were frozen, and this remedy produced immediate relief without the usual inflammation. The same person repeated the application at another time with equal success. In another case, the remedy was applied to a badly frozen ear, which, as in the other instance, it cured without inflammation. It is indispensable that the application be made before thawing. This principle is the more valuable because it is always at hand in every house.—*Country Gentleman.*

HOW THE MAGGOTS COME IN THE ONION.

Mr. Wesley Berry, who has been very successful in raising onions for a number of years past, informs us that on Wednesday evening, having occasion to wash out a quantity of seed, he left some remaining in the basin of water all night, and on Thursday morning he discovered a great number of maggots floating in the water in the basin. This led him to examine the seed, when he discovered that the maggot which has proved so destructive to the onion crop of late years, was in the seed, the same as in the pea, and came forth alive and ready to commence their revolting work, when the seed was swelled by the moisture. If this is so, the process of steeping the seed before planting, might diminish the ravages of this pest of the farmer.—*Nantucket Inquirer.*

OTHER conditions being equal, the cow that has warmed water for drink in severe cold weather will yield considerably the most milk, especially if a handful of meal is added to each bucketful.

HORSES that are not worked or exercised in some way every day should have the benefit of a yard, where they can travel around for several hours each day. It is exceedingly injurious for any horse to be tied in the stall, day after day, without any exercise. And it injures a young horse far more than an old one, as long standing stiffens the limbs of a young animal, and causes them to swell, so that he will, after a few years, move like an old stager. When he does get out, and has room to run in the course of a week, he should be turned loose, not tied by the head in a large box stall, so that he can move around. Better take down the partitions and have a narrow stalls, so that a horse may have ample space for turning around, than to keep him tied, day after day in a narrow stall.

REMOVING THE HORNS.

L. A. Hubbard, Columbus, O., writes to the *Independent*: "For the last ten years I have used an awl, with satisfactory success, for enlarging the issue of a cow's teat. The awl is made of a triangular shape, like the letter V, about three-fourth's of an inch long. The sides are ground hollow or concave. The awl tapers and has a head on the end about as large as the head of a pin. The instrument is inserted in an awl handle. This is the manner of using it: Take hold of the teat, which is full of milk, pull gently on it and thrust the awl into the issue. The sharp edges of the awl will cut the orifice in the sack at the end of the teat, and you will find your cow will milk easily; and the operation will not injure the teats any more than the prick of a pin. I have used one of the instruments for all who have tried it have found it satisfactory."

STARCH IN POTATOES.

Dr. Nessler, of the Duchy of Baden, has shown by analysis that the nutritive value of potatoes varies with their size, and in favor of increased bulk. Potatoes about two inches in diameter contain 17.5 per cent. of starch, and those about the size of walnuts 14.6 per cent. We infer that full growth is necessary to full development of starch.

STRETCHES IN SHEEP.

A correspondent of the *Western Union* says: I think I have discovered something new in the treatment of sheep with the stretches. A few days ago I noticed a sheep in my flock with the stretches. I frightened him, chased him, but still he refused to eat, kept stretching, and appeared to be worse and worse in pain.

At length, after watching him a short time and thinking about it, I concluded it was costiveness. Accordingly, two days after I discovered him, I gave him a dose made of sweet milk and ashes in the following way: To one-half pint of milk add five or six tablespoonsful of ashes; set over the fire and gently warm. Dose, four to six tablespoonsful in a day, and keep up until you hear a "rumbling," or looseness of the bowels, which can be done by placing your ear against the side of the sheep.

In two days I found an entire relief from the stretches, my sheep began to eat, and is now with the rest of the flock, apparently as well as any of them.

I also think this costiveness is caused by long neglect of salting, as is apt to be the case in the winter season.

DRYING OFF COWS.

At this season of the year much care and attention should be given to cows, in properly drying them off their milk. It is the end of the dairy season, and many cows of the herd have perhaps ceased to give milk, except in small driblets, which are not worth saving. It is this very condition of the cow's udder which should be looked to. The milk should be all drawn out from time to time until secretion of the fluid stops or the cow is thoroughly "dried off." Many take it for granted that because a cow has falfed of her milk that no further attention need be given her. We have known serious losses to follow from inattention in this respect. Small quantities of milk will often form and remain in the udder to become thick and putrid, causing inflamation and resulting in the loss of one or more teats.

It is probable that half the loss in the dairy region from garget, inflamed udders, and other troubles of the bag and teats, may be traced directly to improper drying of the cow at the end of the season. Some people entrust this matter entirely to hired help, but they are often forgetful or neglectful until the trouble has progressed so far as to be beyond control. A great many cows lose the use of teats by a small shot-like substance becoming imbedded in the duct of the teat, and now the question whether this trouble is not the result of improper "drying off."—*Utica Herald.*

NEW VEGETABLE.

We extract the following description of a new vegetable, (*Raphanus caudatus*) from a late English paper:

"This valuable new vegetable belongs to the radish tribe, but, unlike that esculent, the seed pods, not the roots are eaten; these are very curious, attainnir an immense size in the course of a month, and sometime growing as much as five or six inches in twenty-four hours. It is a native of Java, where it is known under the name of Mongri, and is much used in some parts of India for saladng, etc.

"It has been introduced into England from Saharunpore, and although coming from so warm a country it succeds admirably in the open ground, and can be easily cultivated in any ordinary garden, which has been fully proved during the past year.

"This vegetable can be used in various ways—indeed it may be regarded as one of the most useful that have been introdced for many years.

"The seed when sown easily vegetates, and in about eight weeks the plants flower profusely, and then produce extraordinary silliquas (pods), which are very remarkable for their attaining the enormous length of about three feet. These pods have a most agreeable flavor, and when about half grown can be eaten in the same way as roots of the common radish, which they greatly resemble in taste, but are far superior in delicacy of flavor: in salads they will be highly estimated, for, added to their other merits, they possess the excellent advantage of being easily digested; they also make a good pickle, for which purpose they are well adapted. It is, however, when the pods are boiled that they are most delicious, tasting then much like asparagus with a slight green pea flavor; they should be served on toast, and will form a most agreeable addition and novelty for the table.

"For boiling and pickling the pods should be allowed to attain their natural size before being gathered; on some plants they are green, on others purple, while on others again they are a purplish green.

"When the plants are tied upright they have a very singular appearance, for each plant produces from fifteen to twenty pods, some hanging quite straight, others twisted or whirled into fantastic shapes."

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 13, 1867.

No movements in local stocks have occurred this week of any importance. The market has not been so "flat, stale and unprofitable" for years as it is now. Even bank stocks are not inquired for as they were wont to be, and pick-ed up nuggets at profitable figures for the sellers. Bridge stocks are dull. Appreciations of charters to new bridges with free toll to pedestrians, operates depressingly upon all corporations, and securities of this class that were once considered solid and imperishable, are become unsalable and unreliable as a permanent investment. Oil stocks have well nigh disappeared from the market. Even Columbia has ceased to be quoted, and the stock no longer commands any attention as an investment.

The New York stock quotations received to-day by S. S. Ryan are slightly off from yesterday. Railways continue dull, and there are no clique movements. A great deal of financial weakness exists in stock circles, caused by the heavy losses sustained during the panics. The extent of the damage resulting from the recent series of panics is imperfectly appreciated, and a large amount of new capital will require to be drawn into the street before anything like the old speculative activity can be aroused. The case would have been different if the bears had made what the bulls lost; but in all panics there is far more dead waste than there is clear profit to the bears.

We subjoin the prices of leading stocks at the New York Exchange from the foremoon sessions:

Gold	137
U. S. Bonds, 1881	109
" 5-20's 1862	103¼
" 6-80 " new issues 1865	105¼
" 7-30's " " 1865	105¾
Michigan Southern	73
Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago	98
Erie	59½
W. U. Telegraph Co.	44
Chicago and Rock Island	96
Chicago Northwestern	29
Chicago and Nor.-western, preferred	69¼
New York Central	101¾

MINING STOCKS

Gregory	12½	Corydon	10 00
Quartz Hill	3	Hoffman	85c
Smith & Parmelee	7½	Nye	8c

—The figures of the last quarterly report of the National Banks of the country show a very satisfactory result so far as they are concerned. They present an aggregate capital of about four hundred and twenty millions, on which they maintain an aggregate of six hundred and eight millions of loans, besides holding four hundred and twenty-eight millions of Government securities, on all which loans and securities, to the amount of $1,051 000.000, they realize profits: which, if put at 6 per cent, per annum, which is no doubt much below the actual amount realized, would equal 11 per cent. on the capital. The January exhibit compares as follows with the former returns. In October, 1866, their capital was four hundred and fifteen millions, their loans four hundred and four hundred and twenty-six millions of Government bonds and six hundred and one millions of other loans; in January, 1866, the capital was four hundred and three millions, and their aggregate loans three hundred and fifty-six millions—four hundred and forty millions to the Government, and five hundred and sixteen millions to other borrowers. The deposits on which the banks have in part based these loans to the Government are the public were as follows: In January, 1867, five hundred and eighty four millions; in October, 1866, five hundred and ninety-six millions, and in January, 1866, five hundred and forty-three millions. Last October fifty-five banks were closed on their reserves. The aggregate amount of greenbacks now held is two hundred and three millions, ag. inst eight hundred and eighty-two millions of deposits and circulation. In October the reserve was two hundred and thirteen millions, against eight hundred and fifty-six millions of deposits and circulation.

—The following shows the totals of the average of the leading items of the Philadelphia banks for the past and previous week:

	Last Wk	This Wk	
Capital	$31,307,050	$31,307,050	
Loans	52,50,130	52,84 329	Decrease. $66 801
Specie	1,299,262	1,299,262	Increase. 1,299,262
Legs Tenders	19,269 123	19,659 256	Increase. 390,127
Due from Banks	7,962,482	7,962,482	Decrease. 56
Due to Banks	7,674,170	7,213,989	Decrease. 460,181
Deposits	39,949,760	39,831,995	Decrease. 118,883
Circulation	8,636,980	8,636,980	Increase. 218,883

The bank movement for the past week shows little change in any of the leading items. The loans decreased $100,801. The legal tenders increased $390,127. Deposits fell off $118,883, circulation $68,989, and the specie $2,000. The clearings for the week amount to $33,111,809, against $30,049 574—showing an increase of $3,065 235. The balances aggregate $2,695,049, against $2,327,873—showing a decrease of $367,824.

—The following are prices for the principal mining shares: Bay State, 95¾ 95¾; Canada, 60@75c; Concord, 3@4½; Copper Falls 63@64½; Franklin, 35@36½; Hancock, asst'd paid, 115@125½; Humboldt, 27@28½; Huron, 80@84 Isle Royal, 1½@1¾; Minnesota, 118@13; National, 7@8; Petherick, 2a 3½; Pewanic, 20@21; Pittsburg, 64@; Pittsburg and Boston, 7½@8; Quincy, 75@77½; Sacramento, 7½@8; South Side, 1@2; Star, 14@1½; Saint Clair, 45@50; Superior, asst'd paid, 124@125; Tottec, 2@3; Revere, 6; Wuthrop, 4@5.—*Boston Advertiser, February 12th.*

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, February 16, 1867.

Business has been rather more active during the last few days than for several weeks past. The bulk of trade is still confined to jobbing lots, but a better feeling and more business exhibited, and in some branches there have been transactions of considerable magnitude, compared with what they have been for the last few weeks. Country dealers have also come had, no doubt, considerable to do with this. Flour continues in good request, and prices are steady Nothing doing in the way of speculation, and as soon clear the market of the supply on hand. The grain market is dull. Provisions are very quiet and unchanged. Butter and eggs are in request, and choice lots of the former are realized, and the quotations. Groceries are quiet and in moderate demand.

We condense from our latest exchanges the following review of markets:

FLOUR AND GRAIN.

In Philadelphia there is a total absence of any demand for Flour for shipment, and the home consumption is restricted upon to purchases only large enough to supply immediate wants. Sales of 500 barrels, chiefly Northw-st extra family at $14@250 in the coding; enmyl ow and white, do at $13 @ 13 50; fancy brands at $14 50@16; extra at $9 @10; and superfine at $8@ 75. Rye Flour is selling in a small way at $7 @8 75 per barrel. Nothing doing in Corn Meal.

GRAIN—There is very little Wheat offering and good and prime lots are in fair demand at full prices but common grades are dull. Sales of 5,000 bushels Pennsylvania red at $8 and a small lot of No 1 spring at $2 50. Rye is selling at $1 70@1 75. Corn is in good request and 9000 bushels sold at 86c for Pennsylvania and 88@90c for Western. Oats remain without change, sales of 2,000 bushels at 74@75c. Nothing doing in Barley or Malt.

The chief of *Intelligence* of Tuesday says: There was a fair demand for Cotton, and prices are steady and ruled dull with a declining tendency The sales foot up some 800 bales, including 500 bales Gulf middling at 30½@31 for spring extras, $7 25@8 50 for spring superfine, and $9 @10 for extra family.

The demand for wheat was less active than on Saturday, and No. 2 spring declined 1c. The offerings of No. 1 were light, and were freely sold at full prices, at from $1 35@1 36—the inside figure for regular, and the outside for choice. No. 2 spring sold at $1 30@1 31 for No 2, and $1 32@1 33 for No. 1. Winter receipts of No. 2 spring sold at from $1 80@1 87½, and closed steady, but quiet, at $1 86. Rejected was in demand at $1 30@1 31 for No. 1.

The inquiry for corn was not very brisk, and the market ruled quiet, with a declining tendency. The sales of yellow at the close were at $1 02@1 03 for prime, and $1 01 for ordinary. Mixed was offered at $1 01, and closed steady, but quiet, at $1 00. Rejected was in demand at 90@91c for No. 1.

The inquiry for oats was not very brisk, and the market ruled dull with a declining tendency. The sales of Pennsylvania and Delaware were at 74@75c, and Western at 73@74c. Receipts, 1,000 bushels.

Barley is dull. Sales of 1,000 bushels at $1 40@1 45 for prime to choice. Malt is dull and nominal at $1 40@1 50.

Rye is in demand at $1 70@1 75 for Pennsylvania and Western.

Cloverseed is in demand at $8 25@8 50. Timothy is dull at $3 50@3 75. Flaxseed is dull at $2 80@2 90.

PROVISIONS—We quote Mess pork at $28 50 per bbl; Prime Mess, $25 50@26; Prime, $24 50@25; Extra Prime, $23@24; Bacon hams, 15@16c; Shoulders 10½@10¾c; Dried Beef 12@13c; Lard, 14½c; extra C, 14½c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, 90@94c; Porto Rico, 80c; English Island, 80c.

SUGAR—Quiet at 12½c for Refining; $1 10 for Booth & Edgar, 80c; Franklin, 80c.

TEAS—Young Hyson, 90c@$1 75; Imperial, $1 50@ 1 80; Gunpowder, $1 50@1 80; Oolong, 75c@$1 25.

COFFEE—No. 1 Shore Mackerel, $21 50 per bbl; half do $13 25; No. 1 Bay do, $22 50, half do, $12 25; No. 2 Mackerel, $17 00. No. 3 do, $16 50. White Fish, $8 bbl; $8 50; Labrador Herring, $ bbl, $10 00. Lake Herring, $4 25

BUCKEYE—$3 25@3 30.

TOBACCO—No. 1, 3 hoops, $14 50 per doz; No. 1, 2 hoops, $14 00; No 2, 2 hoops $12 00.

RICE—Carolina, 10½c; Rangoon, 10½c.

SODA—$11 cash; 11½c.

FAMILY MARKET.

LIVING EXPENSES IN PITTSBURGH.

CAREFULLY REVISED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, February 13, 1867.

The market continues to be generally well supplied with the articles of daily consumption, which we have classified under the head of Family Markets. We quote the retail prices for first class articles as follows:

BREAD AND CRACKERS.

Wheat loaf, cash	8c	Boston Crackers, ₩ lb	15
Rye	10	Cream	40
Boston, Crackers, ₩ lb	8	Sugared Wafers	40
Wine	16	Milk Biscuit	16
Soda	16	Butter Crackers	16
Oyster	13	Pilot Bread	13
Water	10	Almond Nuts	40
Butter	16	Cold Water (fr'h'm)	13
Sugar	16	Cracker Meal	13
Graham	13		

BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.

Butter, Print, ₩ lb	50	Cheese, com'n Ohio	16
" Prime Roll	40 to 45	Eggs, fres ₩ doz	50
" Common	35	Dutch Cheese, ₩ doz	20
Pine Apple Cheese	20	Cheese, Goshen	25 to 28

FISH—FRESH.

Lake Salmon	15	Haddock	10 to 12
Lake White Fish	12	Halibut	12 to 15
White fish	10	Kels, ₩ lb	10 to 12
Lake Trout	10	Mackerel	15
Suckers, ₩ lb	10 to 12	Salmon, ₩ lb	15 to 20
Cat Fish, ₩ lb	10 to 15	Salmon Trout, ₩ lb	15
		Herring	10

FISH—DRY, SHELL, SMOKED, ETC.

Cod, dry ₩ lb	10	Mackerel, No 1, shore	
Haddock (smoked)	8	in Kits	$1 00
Halibut	20	Mackerel No. 2 large	75
Herring, 2½ ₩ cash	5	Oysters, fan. (not sealed) ₩ can	80 to 1 00
Mackerel No. 1 ₩ lb	15	White Fish, ₩ lb	12½
		Salmon Smoked ₩ lb	25
		Salmon (pickled)	25

FLOUR, MEAL, &C.

Extra Family		Corn Starch, ₩ paper	14
Family, ₩ bbl	$14 00 to 15 00	Corn Meal, ₩ bush	1 20
Extra Family, in bags	13	Hominy, ₩ lb	8
Fancy Brands, ₩ bbl	16	Indian Meal, ₩ bush	1 20
Self rising, ₩	13	Oatmeal, ₩ lb	9
Buckwheat, ₩ bbl	6 00	Sago	12
Buckwheat Flour, ₩ lb	12		

FRUITS, NUTS, ETC., DRY.

Apples ₩ lb	12½	Prunes (salty)	10
Apricots	50 to 75	Peaches	20
Cocoa Nuts, each	5	Brazil Nuts	40
Chestnuts, ₩ qt	20	Filberts	30
Peaches	20 to 25	Currants	20
English Walnuts	25	Citron	40
Peanuts ₩ qt	10	Figs	8 to 10
Dried Cherries, ₩ lb	25	Citrons, ₩ lb	50
Raisins (loose)	20		

FRUITS—GREEN, CANNED; OILS, JELLIES, &C.

Apples, ₩ peck	50	Pineapples	25 to 50
Lemons ₩ doz	30	Tomatoes 2 ₩ cans	35 to 40
Green corn, 2 ₩ cans	35	Assorted Jellies, in	
Strawberries, 2 ₩ cans	75	tumblers	35 to 50
Black berries, do do	50	Pickles, in jars	40 to 50
Pears, do do	50	Sweet Pickles, ₩ bottle	40
Sardines, ₩ boxes,		Salad oil, ₩ bottle	25 to 1 25
Do	18	Olive oil, ₩ bottle	75 to 1 00
Boneless do	20	Honey, ₩ lb	50
Honey, strained, ₩	25	Molasses, ₩ gallon	1 00

GROCERIES.

Coffee, choice Rio ₩	30	Tea, Imperial	2 00
" fair	30	" Gunpowder	1 50
Roast Rio ₩	35	" Young Hyson	1 50
Java	40	Lard, ₩ lb	18
Sugar, brown, ₩ lb	12½	Rice, Island ₩	10
" loaf	15 to 16	Salaratus, ₩ lb	8
" crushed and		Salt, table ₩ bbl	2 50
powdered	18	Saleratus, ₩ lb	6 to 8
Molasses, Porto Ri-		Starch ₩ lb	10
co, ₩ gal	80 to 1 00	Soap, Castile	18
" cuba	80 to 1 00	" fair	12
" syrup	60

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1867.

TERMS:

One copy per year.....$2 00
In clubs of Twenty, per year.....1 00
One copy gratis, to the getter-up of the club.

PERSONS in different parts of the country are constantly asking for copies of the Great Seal of the State, to preserve as a curiosity, but Governor GEARY has directed it not to be given hereafter, on the ground that it may be improperly used.

IT is quite broadly intimated that the statement made by the correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, that the ASHLEY impeachment resolution was intended to include Gen. GRANT, and that it was prompted by Gen. BUTLER—a statement which Mr. ASHLEY denied on the floor of the House—was furnished by his colleague, Mr. BINGHAM. "MACK," the correspondent, was asked by ASHLEY to give his authority. This he refused to do, in a letter of which the following is a "salty" specimen:

> "The story is not a new one. It was heard by others and by myself before I left it in the *Commercial*. Mr. Boynton, of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, heard it. Probably I published it. Perhaps the authority was the same as mine and I understand him to be willing to give it to you.
>
> "I am convinced that the affair, as heard and related by me, was exaggerated, and I shall gladly do penance in another letter for the easy credulity which induced me to believing ear and a recording pen to the story of a Congressman."

SHALL THERE BE A PENALTY?

That any one should, even for an instant, suppose that the loyal people, who at almost incalculable expense of life and treasure fought the war through and the Rebellion down, would ever consent to acknowledge as equals those who for four years strove to destroy the Republic, is indeed amazing. The very idea is enough to cause a hundred battle fields, ridged with the graves of heroic dead, to cry out in indignant protestation. And yet this is just what the President's new plan proposes—the plan of a man who has said more than any other about punishing traitors and making treason odious.

It is frequently said that the generous terms of the Constitutional Amendment would have been instantly and gladly accepted had they been proposed immediately on the surrender of LEE; and it is equally true that had any one then proposed terms less exacting, he would have been denounced for manifesting a willingness to excuse treason and pardon traitors. Since then the rebels have ceased to feel that they were vanquished, and have come to act as though they were victors in the dreadful contest; and we find them to-day attempting to dictate terms on which they will renew their relations in the Union. The President's new scheme was framed and brought forward in this spirit; and should the loyal men of the land assent to it, they would be faithless to the cause of Liberty and the cause which, though it triumphed in the great military struggle, would be beaten in the end.

Though e faithless President, leagued with rebels, with homes revived by his faithlessness, many seek to fasten about a settlement on such terms, the loyal men of the land, we are confident, will listen to them not for a moment, but by a Congress chosen to represent them, will insist on such terms and such only—as will secure all the fruits of the war, and establish in the Government the principles and ideas which grew out of it.

Congress should not hesitate to act up to this line. To yield the third section of the Amendment, as proposed by the President and his rebel allies, would be virtually conceding that the "rebellion was no crime—no offense—that there should be no penalty because none had been incurred. Such a confession would dishonor the memory of half a million of dead heroes, and add injury to the sorrows of numberless widows and fatherless children. Let Congress be firm and prompt, for its action will fall not only on the present but on the future. If this Rebellion goes down in history with no penalty attached to the terms of settlement, what else need we expect but other rebellions, which will end in the overthrow of the Republic and the downfall of Liberty?

PENNSYLVANIA'S THREE GREAT STAPLES.

The recent report of the Philadelphia Board of Trade shows a gratifying increase in the production of the three great staples of Pennsylvania—coal, petroleum and iron. From the statistics in possession of the Board, it appears that the product of coal in the State, in 1866, is estimated at 16,000,000 tons, an increase of two millions tons over the product of 1865, and of nearly four millions tons over the product of 1860. While this estimate shows a flattering increase in this product, it is evidently far below the mark. The report only allows a production in 1866 of 1,500,000 tons of bituminous coal, which is probably but a small part of the product of that class of coal. The amount of bituminous coal received in Pittsburgh alone, through the Monongahela slack water, during 1866, was 1,703,212 tons, or two hundred thousand tons more than the amount allowed in the Philadelphia Board of Trade estimate to have been mined in the whole State. To this should be added the receipts at this city of bituminous coal by four railroads amounting to upwards of four hundred thousand tons These figures would give a bituminous product, received in this market alone, of more than 2,100 000 tons. Then there is a large amount of the product of the Westmoreland county mines that finds a market in the East, of which we have no account, as well as that which is mined here by our manufacturers of which no account is kept. It is safe to say that the bituminous product is several times the amount estimated by the Philadelphia Board of Trade. The value of our coal product, by the Philadelphia report, at the markets of its first delivery was at least $80,000,000. The report says the quantity of petroleum produced in 1866 is estimate at nearly 90,000, 900 of gallons, valued at $47,210,379. The product of pig iron was 646,258 tons, an increase of nearly 100,000 tons over 1865, valued at $31,020,384. The aggregate value of coal, petroleum, and pig iron was $158,-231,243. We have no means of verifying these figures relating to petroleum and iron, but if they are not more correct than the coal figures they are not of much value.

Commenting on these figures the Philadelphia *Press* alludes to the insufficiency of inland transportation facilities, and furnishes an argument in behalf of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railway and other unfinished and contemplated lines. It says:

> "These resources, which in the present industrial development of the country may almost be considered peculiar to it, are a source of immense value. Our coal product is worth as much as the gold product of the Pacific States, and our pig iron and petroleum yields nearly a richer revenue than was ever obtained from the famous silver mines of Mexico and Peru. It is important that as far as possible, the advantages which these staples furnish as a basis for manufactures and commerce should be freely enjoyed by the citizens of our own State. It is clear, by the main points of the Board of Trade, that a refusal of proper facilities and the existing freight charges tend to divert a profitable trade in natural outlets at Philadelphia and Pittsburgh to New York and Maryland, to such an extent that these two latter points now refine and ship a larger number of barrels than the two leading cities of Pennsylvania. The importance of this subject is increased by the beneficial effect exercised by the petroleum trade of Philadelphia upon her foreign commerce. While the value of the exports of this port from $12,581,152, in 1865, to $16,286,986, the import trade in 1866 has increased in fully equal ratio: from $5,645,755 in 1865 to $14,015 189 in 1866; many articles of which the petroleum forms the return freights of soda ash in great quantities, and other heavy goods—can be traced here over the same road which took the market the outward-bound freight." Petroleum affords a great basis for foreign commerce, a large demand having sprung up in nearly every civilized country, and it is to be deeply regretted that the undue influence exercised by the railway companies belonging to or traversing the State should deprive our leading cities of their fair share of this important traffic. The Board of Trade contend that the "readiness with which shipping has responded to this offered freight demonstrates that cheap inland transportation is the only necessary precedent condition of a forward activity in export trade." If this be a sound conclusion, our commercial prospects are dependent chiefly upon the policy of our railway lines; and it will be necessary to secure a reduction of their freight tariff before there can be made to answer fully the business purposes when our citizens had in view in assisting in their construction."

PRESIDENTIAL SURREYDER.

It has been the constant song—or oath—of Mr. JOHNSON, that having early brought forward his policy of reconstruction, come what would, he would sink or swim with it; and furthermore, that so long as certain States were not represented, Congress had no right to legislate in regard to them, and any such attempt on his part was a violation of the Constitution, which he would defend at all hazards.

While swinging around the circle before the people, or sitting in angry obstinacy in the White House, this has been his constant talk. Within the last ten days, however, Mr. JOHNSON has "gone back" on all this—surrendered his original plan, by bringing forward another; and by causing it to be presented in the Senate, conceded the right of Congress, even while certain States are unrepresented, to act in the premises. This is the effect of Senator DIXON'S proposition in behalf of the President last week. It covers the entire ground claimed by the Republicans in Congress, and whatever advantage or strength was thought to be attached to the President's single policy, and his constant objection to the regularity of Congress, nothing remains of it now.

The part taken by the Southern Governors and the prominent Southerners, with the President in this new movement, fully commits them; and if there is any consistency in them we may safely count on having heard the last of the clamor for "my policy" as the only one to be thought of, and against Congress as a "usurping body" worthy only to be "kicked out," because it claimed the right to legislate while certain States were yet unrepresented. For this much Mr. JOHNSON and his allies are to be thanked.

PERSONAL.

—A St. Louis paper says: "The Tragic Queen was not permitted to leave the city without a squabble with a printer. John Bridie, the printer or the theater programme, presented a bill of $75 to Mr. Gran, Ristori's agent, which he refused to pay. On Saturday night, after Ristori had packed her wardrobe, Bridie sued out an attachment, and the constable was about to lay upon her trunks, when the agent came to terms and paid the bill."

—An eccentric and wealthy American lady at Homburg presented Mlle Patti with an enormous bouquet, arranged in the form of a life-size statue of the prima donna herself, skillfuly executed in artificial flowers. All else around the neck of the figure was a valuable necklace. The bouquet statue had a place on Patti's balcony during the rest of her stay in Homburg.

—A Columbus, Ohio, letter says: The declination of Gov. Cox has caused a good deal of gossip here as to his probable successor, and a score of names have been mentioned. Gen. Hayes, of your city, has many supporters, and would have run, but some of his best friends think he can do himself more credit and the country more service in Congress. This is unquestionably true, and Gen. Hayes will no doubt take the same view of it. Gen. Schenck is in the same situation. Gen. Thomas L. Young is looming up as available and strong. Gen. Edward Smith, of Ross, has some influential backers, and his location is in his favor, undoubtedly. At present, however, I am inclined to think that Gen. B. R. Cowen, Adjutant General of the State, has the inside track. And he would be a choice of which no Republican need be ashamed to find a better or more suitable man.

—A partial list of the signers of the Moille Trussel petition shows that in pardoning her, Governor Oglesby only yielded to the wishes of many of the most worthy men and matrons of Chicago.

—James P. Kimball and his wife, of East Medway, Massachusetts, who were captured by Snake and Shoshonee Indians, while crossing the plains eighteen years ago, recently fought their way out, aided by United States troops from Fort Laramie, and have rejoined their family, now living near Cortland, New York, who had long ago given them up as lost. The Indians exalted Kimball to be the "great medicine man" of the tribe, and he was with them so long that he lost most of his civilized habits. For food he prefers raw beef to anything else.

—A picture in a late number of *Punch* represents a fashionable and affectionate couple, the husband searching vigorously in his waistcoat pockets. The young wife inquires, "Have you lost your watch, love?" and the replies, "No darling, 'twas a new bonnet I had for you some where."

—General and Mrs. DIX, assisted by Miss DIX, held their first general reception on Saturday evening, January 19th. A very great number of the American colony in Paris was present, including the highest respect to their Minister and his family, and charmed to be accorded the privilege of meeting so many of their countrymen through their genial hospitality. The General and Mrs. DIX having been lifted from the carriage by Mr. Bigelow, Duke de Fleurys on that evening, did not appear until about 10 o'clock, Miss DIX doing the honors of the house in their absence. As has been the custom at American receptions at Paris, the ladies wear either full dress or simple toilette, but they are always enough of the former to give the rooms a brilliant appearance. Miss DIX wore a high dress of pearl gray silk with jet ornaments. Mrs. DIX's dress was extremely elegant—of amber colored satin, cut square in the neck, and trimmed with pearls and black lace—one of Vignon's creations, perfectly adapted to Mrs. DIX's style. Her ornaments were strings of yellow topaz, set in gold fret-work around her throat and in her hair. These reception days will be held every Saturday evening.

—Professor Bache, of the Coast Survey announced from Washington to be an invalid, and it is said may probably never again be able to attend to his professional duties. The Department is now managed by Professor Hilgard. Professor Bache is a Philadelphian, and his many friends will deeply regret his continued and hopeless illness.

—A Paris letter says: The Emperor enjoys again excellent health. If he continues so active in the least approximation that he may live long enough to see the Prince Imperial of age and entitled to ascend the throne without the interregnum of a Regency. As much as the French admire the Empress for her charitable disposition and the manly intrepidity she showed on that day during the conflagration on many other occasions, there are not many who would like to see her at the helm of the statesnip. She is too much of a bigot, would soon be under the influence of the clergy, and be swayed by hierarchical instead of liberal principles.

—Mr. N. P. Willis's famous country seat on the Hudson came about in this way: "It was a portion of the farm of Nathaniel Sands, a lovely, kindly, gentle old man, whose surest, persuasive words from the high seat of the quaker meeting have won many hearts to the peaceful faith he had espoused. He decided to sell the tract to Willis, naming some very moderate sum of money as its price, because, Nathaniel, it is only an idle whim' 'I will take it,' said Willis, and I shall be called the fool for it.'

—Mr. Seth Hunt, of New York, is building an immense shawl factory at Burlington, Vt. It will cost half a million. Mr. Howard, the hotel millionaire, is building in the same place a very fine business block.

—The Fred Karl mentioned by the Atlantic Cable as a candidate for the North German throne will be probably Prince Frederick Charles, the famous general of the late war and the second son of the King. The splendor of a Prince of the blood royal making the suffrage of the people suggests to the friends of European governments towards republicanism Count Bismarck is also a candidate, and they will of course be elected.

—Miss Kellogg visits Europe this coming spring—unprofessionally, however.

—M. Nicolides, a Greek, has published in Paris a work which leads him to improve that all the editors have been wrong in the "venue" of some of the most important scenes in the "Illiad."

—A statue of Horace Greeley will soon be on exhibition. McKay & Co. have produced from the new and various process of photo-sculpture. The philosopher stands slightly bent forward, his hands at his breast, his pantaloons caught at the top of his boot leg, a bundle of papers under his arm, and what looks like all the *Tribune* exchanges obtruding from his pocket.

—Mrs. Sumners are the worshipped of society in Washington. At an elegant party lately she is described as wearing an elegant black corded silk dress, with Pompadour waist, and a heavy black lace mantle, and a golden wreath of antique design, and hair like a crown, curiously interwoven with her hair, helped to create an illusion "before which men instinctively rendered homage."

—Mr. Du Chaillu intends to visit the United States during the spring, and will leave London about the first of March.

—Mr. David Dudley Field, who went abroad last Fall to attend the Social Science Congress in England, has just returned. He was appointed a member of the Commission which is to meet at Paris on the 1st of September to examine results and prepare a final report to be laid before the next meeting of the Congress.

—Vallandigham wants for a candidate in 1868 a "tried" Democrat. He's the man. He was "tried"—for disloyalty.

—It is said that last Autumn, the Countess de C——, a fair and celebrated gambler, on being presented to the Pope, received from His Holiness a sharp reprimand on the subject of gambling. She solemnly promised Pius IX. that she would never sit at a gaming table, and kept her word till a few nights ago, when on being seen deeply engaged in *rouge*, she was reminded of her pledge she had taken at the Vatican. "I have not broken my word," replied the fair countess. "Do you not perceive that I am standing?"

Costly Churches.

High priced churches are in fashion just now The New England (Congregational) Church at Chicago has just been completed, at a cost of $400,000, including the lot. In Dr. Chapin's new church, at New York, the highest price paid for a seat, or rather the highest premium, was two thousand dollars. The ordinary seats in the galleries sold for a premium of five hundred dollars, and a ground seat at from seventy-five to one hundred dollars a year. When strangers (men) come to church, they are seated on an omnibus like bench along the wall, and they must be content. If you take a seat because no one else comes in who seems to own it, perhaps, just before sermon time, a rector comes to you and asks you, "Are you seated by an usher?" You answer "no," and are politely requested to leave, which, of course, you do. No one likes to be obliged to ask a sexton for a seat every Sunday in the year, and no one feels as though they ought. It is a fact which will be characterized as men view it, that the great mass of the people of this country, especially in cities, have no where to attend church. Costly churches have been erected, but is it not time that there should be an open door and perfect equality in Christianity?

A New Britain (Conn.,) woman got terribly mad with her husband the other day, and to spite him, rushed out of doors and sat in a snowbank, till she was nearly frozen. Her husband urged her in vain to return to the house, until the drowsiness began to come over her from the effects of the cold, when he succeeded in removing her and thawing her out.

STATE ITEMS.

Joseph Miller, late Prothonotary, and Clerk of Courts of Perry county, and Postmaster of New Bloomfield under President Lincoln, died in that village a few days since.

Edw. Bliss, proprietor, and Jonn D. Nicholas, local editor, of the Meadville *Journal*, have been sued for libel, at the instance of Miss Clara G. Hosier. The accused are under ball for trial.

David Newling, of Clearfield county, a few weeks since followed a panther from that county to within two miles of Tyrone city, Blair county, where he shot it. It was almost two inches from tip to tip. Mr. Newling was paid twelve dollars for the scalp by the Blair county Commissioners.

The High School at Martinsburg, Blair county, has passed into the hands of the Allegheny Synod of the Lutheran Church. Rev. J. W. Heisk is the present Principal.

The debt of Montgomery county, on the 10th of January, 1867, was about $253,500, against $146,-138 90 last year. The amount of county tax received last year, was $83 082 66, amount of county tax $155,500 01. The expenses of the Montgomery County Poor House, for 1866, amounted to $24,010 73.

The county account of Bucks county foots up as follows: The amount of receipts during the year was $74,128 25; the amount of county indebtedness paid off was $274 920 75; leaving the sum of $162 207 50 as the amount of the general expenses of the county, including the abatement of tax, the late treasurer's examination, &c. The county debt is officially stated to be $264,186, 94 cents, in the following scrip and interest, and temporary loans at banks:

The Reading Railroad Company have commenced the erection of their proposed extensive rolling mill in Reading. The masons are now at work on the foundation. The size of the main building is to be 115 by 90 feet, and one wing 75 by 90 feet, and the other 90 feet each way. The mill is put up for the purpose of manufacturing railroad iron, for the Company's own use, and the Reading *Journal* says: A machine shop of even larger dimensions is also in contemplation, and other buildings for the accommodation of a large mile of manufacturing establishments, which, when all in operation will furnish employment to some four or five thousand persons.

The system of free delivery of letters will be introduced in Erie about the first of April.

The large rolling mill at Danville, Pa., owned by Waterman & Beaver, turns out eighty tons of railroad iron per day, a quantity sufficient to make nearly two-thirds of a mile of track. The rails now being made are for the Union Pacific Railroad.

Hezekiah Malone, convicted in the Blair County Court of bigamy, was sentenced on Thursday to undergo nine months imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary, in Allegheny.

Mr. Andrew Chestnut, a lieutenant in the war of 1812, died on the 3d instant, on his farm in Tyrone township, Somerset county, where he had resided for seventy years, at the age of ninety years. Among the recollections that he frequently recalled, was meeting George Washington, when three Governors (of Pennsylvania, Virginia and New Jersey) met him at Harrisburg, on his return from Cumberland in March to quell the whisky insurrection in the neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

Samuel A. Corman, a member of the Philadelphia Bar, pleaded guilty in the Criminal Court of that city on Friday to a charge of forgery, by which crime he robbed a woman named Smith of $9,000. Corman was sentenced to three years imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary. The Philadelphia Bar sentenced within a brief period by bringing forward another; and by causing it to be presented in the Senate, conceded the right of Congress, even while certain States are unrepresented, to act in the premises. This is the effect of Senator DIXON'S proposition in behalf of the President last week. It covers the entire ground claimed by the Republicans in Congress, and whatever advantage or strength was thought to be attached to the President's single policy, and his constant objection to the regularity of Congress, nothing remains of it now.

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—A Columbus, Ohio, letter says: The declination of Gov. Cox has caused a good deal of gossip here as to his probable successor, and a score of names have been mentioned. Gen. Hayes, of your city, has many supporters, and would have run, but some of his best friends think he can do himself more credit and the country more service in Congress. This is unquestionably true, and Gen. Hayes will no doubt take the same view of it. Gen. Schenck is in the same situation. Gen. Thomas L. Young is looming up as available and strong. Gen. Edward Smith, of Ross, has some influential backers, and his location is in his favor, undoubtedly. At present, however, I am inclined to think that Gen. B. R. Cowen, Adjutant General of the State, has the inside track. And he would be a choice of which no Republican need be ashamed to find a better or more suitable man.

—A partial list of the signers of the Moille Trussel petition shows that in pardoning her, Governor Oglesby only yielded to the wishes of many of the most worthy men and matrons of Chicago.

—James P. Kimball and his wife, of East Medway, Massachusetts, who were captured by Snake and Shoshonee Indians, while crossing the plains eighteen years ago, recently fought their way out, aided by United States troops from Fort Laramie, and have rejoined their family, now living near Cortland, New York, who had long ago given them up as lost. The Indians exalted Kimball to be the "great medicine man" of the tribe, and he was with them so long that he lost most of his civilized habits. For food he prefers raw beef to anything else.

—A picture in a late number of *Punch* represents a fashionable and affectionate couple, the husband searching vigorously in his waistcoat pockets. The young wife inquires, "Have you lost your watch, love?" and the replies, "No darling, 'twas a new bonnet I had for you some where."

—General and Mrs. DIX, assisted by Miss DIX, held their first general reception on Saturday evening, January 19th. A very great number of the American colony in Paris was present, including the highest respect to their Minister and his family, and charmed to be accorded the privilege of meeting so many of their countrymen through their genial hospitality. The General and Mrs. DIX having been lifted from the carriage by Mr. Bigelow, Duke de Fleurys on that evening, did not appear until about 10 o'clock, Miss DIX doing the honors of the house in their absence. As has been the custom at American receptions at Paris, the ladies wear either full dress or simple toilette, but they are always enough of the former to give the rooms a brilliant appearance. Miss DIX wore a high dress of pearl gray silk with jet ornaments. Mrs. DIX's dress was extremely elegant—of amber colored satin, cut square in the neck, and trimmed with pearls and black lace—one of Vignon's creations, perfectly adapted to Mrs. DIX's style. Her ornaments were strings of yellow topaz, set in gold fret-work around her throat and in her hair. These reception days will be held every Saturday evening.

—Professor Bache, of the Coast Survey announced from Washington to be an invalid, and it is said may probably never again be able to attend to his professional duties. The Department is now managed by Professor Hilgard. Professor Bache is a Philadelphian, and his many friends will deeply regret his continued and hopeless illness.

—A Paris letter says: The Emperor enjoys again excellent health. If he continues so active in the least approximation that he may live long enough to see the Prince Imperial of age and entitled to ascend the throne without the interregnum of a Regency. As much as the French admire the Empress for her charitable disposition and the manly intrepidity she showed on that day during the conflagration on many other occasions, there are not many who would like to see her at the helm of the statesnip. She is too much of a bigot, would soon be under the influence of the clergy, and be swayed by hierarchical instead of liberal principles.

—Mr. N. P. Willis's famous country seat on the Hudson came about in this way: "It was a portion of the farm of Nathaniel Sands, a lovely, kindly, gentle old man, whose surest, persuasive words from the high seat of the quaker meeting have won many hearts to the peaceful faith he had espoused. He decided to sell the tract to Willis, naming some very moderate sum of money as its price, because, Nathaniel, it is only an idle whim' 'I will take it,' said Willis, and I shall be called the fool for it.'

—Mr. Seth Hunt, of New York, is building an immense shawl factory at Burlington, Vt. It will cost half a million. Mr. Howard, the hotel millionaire, is building in the same place a very fine business block.

—The Fred Karl mentioned by the Atlantic Cable as a candidate for the North German throne will be probably Prince Frederick Charles, the famous general of the late war and the second son of the King. The splendor of a Prince of the blood royal making the suffrage of the people suggests to the friends of European governments towards republicanism Count Bismarck is also a candidate, and they will of course be elected.

—Miss Kellogg visits Europe this coming spring—unprofessionally, however.

—M. Nicolides, a Greek, has published in Paris a work which leads him to improve that all the editors have been wrong in the "venue" of some of the most important scenes in the "Illiad."

—A statue of Horace Greeley will soon be on exhibition. McKay & Co. have produced from the new and various process of photo-sculpture. The philosopher stands slightly bent forward, his hands at his breast, his pantaloons caught at the top of his boot leg, a bundle of papers under his arm, and what looks like all the *Tribune* exchanges obtruding from his pocket.

—Mrs. Sumners are the worshipped of society in Washington. At an elegant party lately she is described as wearing an elegant black corded silk dress, with Pompadour waist, and a heavy black lace mantle, and a golden wreath of antique design, and hair like a crown, curiously interwoven with her hair, helped to create an illusion "before which men instinctively rendered homage."

—Mr. Du Chaillu intends to visit the United States during the spring, and will leave London about the first of March.

—Mr. David Dudley Field, who went abroad last Fall to attend the Social Science Congress in England, has just returned. He was appointed a member of the Commission which is to meet at Paris on the 1st of September to examine results and prepare a final report to be laid before the next meeting of the Congress.

—Vallandigham wants for a candidate in 1868 a "tried" Democrat. He's the man. He was "tried"—for disloyalty.

—It is said that last Autumn, the Countess de C——, a fair and celebrated gambler, on being presented to the Pope, received from His Holiness a sharp reprimand on the subject of gambling. She solemnly promised Pius IX. that she would never sit at a gaming table, and kept her word till a few nights ago, when on being seen deeply engaged in *rouge*, she was reminded of her pledge she had taken at the Vatican. "I have not broken my word," replied the fair countess. "Do you not perceive that I am standing?"

Costly Churches.

High priced churches are in fashion just now The New England (Congregational) Church at Chicago has just been completed, at a cost of $400,000, including the lot. In Dr. Chapin's new church, at New York, the highest price paid for a seat, or rather the highest premium, was two thousand dollars. The ordinary seats in the galleries sold for a premium of five hundred dollars, and a ground seat at from seventy-five to one hundred dollars a year. When strangers (men) come to church, they are seated on an omnibus like bench along the wall, and they must be content. If you take a seat because no one else comes in who seems to own it, perhaps, just before sermon time, a rector comes to you and asks you, "Are you seated by an usher?" You answer "no," and are politely requested to leave, which, of course, you do. No one likes to be obliged to ask a sexton for a seat every Sunday in the year, and no one feels as though they ought. It is a fact which will be characterized as men view it, that the great mass of the people of this country, especially in cities, have no where to attend church. Costly churches have been erected, but is it not time that there should be an open door and perfect equality in Christianity?

A New Britain (Conn.,) woman got terribly mad with her husband the other day, and to spite him, rushed out of doors and sat in a snowbank, till she was nearly frozen. Her husband urged her in vain to return to the house, until the drowsiness began to come over her from the effects of the cold, when he succeeded in removing her and thawing her out.

STATE ITEMS.

Joseph Miller, late Prothonotary, and Clerk of Courts of Perry county, and Postmaster of New Bloomfield under President Lincoln, died in that village a few days since.

Edw. Bliss, proprietor, and Jonn D. Nicholas, local editor, of the Meadville *Journal*, have been sued for libel, at the instance of Miss Clara G. Hosier. The accused are under ball for trial.

David Newling, of Clearfield county, a few weeks since followed a panther from that county to within two miles of Tyrone city, Blair county, where he shot it. It was almost two inches from tip to tip. Mr. Newling was paid twelve dollars for the scalp by the Blair county Commissioners.

The High School at Martinsburg, Blair county, has passed into the hands of the Allegheny Synod of the Lutheran Church. Rev. J. W. Heisk is the present Principal.

The debt of Montgomery county, on the 10th of January, 1867, was about $253,500, against $146,-138 90 last year. The amount of county tax received last year, was $83 082 66, amount of county tax $155,500 01. The expenses of the Montgomery County Poor House, for 1866, amounted to $24,010 73.

The county account of Bucks county foots up as follows: The amount of receipts during the year was $74,128 25; the amount of county indebtedness paid off was $274 920 75; leaving the sum of $162 207 50 as the amount of the general expenses of the county, including the abatement of tax, the late treasurer's examination, &c. The county debt is officially stated to be $264,186, 94 cents, in the following scrip and interest, and temporary loans at banks:

The Reading Railroad Company have commenced the erection of their proposed extensive rolling mill in Reading. The masons are now at work on the foundation. The size of the main building is to be 115 by 90 feet, and one wing 75 by 90 feet, and the other 90 feet each way. The mill is put up for the purpose of manufacturing railroad iron, for the Company's own use, and the Reading *Journal* says: A machine shop of even larger dimensions is also in contemplation, and other buildings for the accommodation of a large mile of manufacturing establishments, which, when all in operation will furnish employment to some four or five thousand persons.

The system of free delivery of letters will be introduced in Erie about the first of April.

The large rolling mill at Danville, Pa., owned by Waterman & Beaver, turns out eighty tons of railroad iron per day, a quantity sufficient to make nearly two-thirds of a mile of track. The rails now being made are for the Union Pacific Railroad.

Hezekiah Malone, convicted in the Blair County Court of bigamy, was sentenced on Thursday to undergo nine months imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary, in Allegheny.

Mr. Andrew Chestnut, a lieutenant in the war of 1812, died on the 3d instant, on his farm in Tyrone township, Somerset county, where he had resided for seventy years, at the age of ninety years. Among the recollections that he frequently recalled, was meeting George Washington, when three Governors (of Pennsylvania, Virginia and New Jersey) met him at Harrisburg, on his return from Cumberland in March to quell the whisky insurrection in the neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

Samuel A. Corman, a member of the Philadelphia Bar, pleaded guilty in the Criminal Court of that city on Friday to a charge of forgery, by which crime he robbed a woman named Smith of $9,000. Corman was sentenced to three years imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary. The Philadelphia Bar sentenced within a brief period

Duff's College.

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P. DUFF & SON, PRINCIPALS,

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February, 1867.

WE OPEN TO-DAY,

OUR NEW STOCK OF

Carpets,

Comprising the Best Patterns made in

INGRAIN, THREE PLY AND ENGLISH TAPESTRY BRUSSELS,

WHICH WE NOW OFFER AT

Wholesale and Retail

AT THE LOWEST PRICES SINCE THE WAR.

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No. 119 and 121 FIRST ST.,

OIL WELL TUBING,

LAP WELD GAS PIPE.

CASING PIPE FOR OIL WELLS,

GAS TONGS, cheap for Wholesale trade.

SHEET IRON LINING FOR CAVING WELLS, &c.

Everything needed in

PUMPING OIL WELLS,

SHEET AND PLATE IRON WORK.

Iron Tanks, for Storing Oil, Saltpans, Gasometers, &c.

COPPER PIPES, LIFE BOATS,

BLACKSMITH WORK,

BUILDINGS WARMED BY FURNACES,

REGISTERS AND VENTILATORS,

HAIR FELT, for covering Steam Pipes and Boilers,

Those in want of the BEST GOODS AND WORK are invited to give us a call. oct5-M.Th&S6m

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BISSELL & CO.,

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PITTSBURGH, PA.,

MANUFACTURERS OF THE CELEBRATED

TRIUMPH COOKING STOVE,

FOR COAL,

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BLACK OAK,

FOR WOOD.

Fine and Common Enameled GRATE FRONTS SUMMER FRONTS and FENDERS, and

BISSELL & CO'S. CELEBRATED

Double Oven Cooking Range,

Made expressly for Bituminous Coal, which for Economy, Cleanliness and Utility stands unsurpassed. Testing the

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ALSO, MANUFACTURERS OF

PARLOR STOVES, HEATING STOVES, LAUNDRY STOVES, WASH HOUSE FURNACES, SEA SHORE STOVES, LARGE GRATES, HAM BOILERS, WAFFLE IRONS, &c., &c.

Please give us a call or send for our Circular. oct5-6m*

MATHEMATICAL PROBLEMS.

The proportion of thread used in making the various stitches is as follows:

Lock Stitch 1 1-10ths, Shuttle Stitch 1 8-10ths, Double Chain Stitch 2 5-10ths.

Prob. 1. How much will a Lock Stitch Machine (Wheeler & Wilson) uses 10 cents worth of thread and silk in a day, how much would it use in a year of 300 working days? Answer $240.

Prob. 2. How much would a Chain Stitch machine (Wilcox & Gibbs) use in doing the same amount of sewing? Ans. $57 worth.

Prob. 3. How much would a double chain stitch machine (Grover & Baker) use in doing the same amount of sewing? Ans. $360.

Prob. 4. There will be ultimately at least a million of sewing machines used in the country. At the above rate what value of thread and silk would be used annually? Ans. Lock Stitch $240,000,000; Double Chain Stitch $57,000,000; Double Chain Stitch $75,000,000.

Prob. 5. What value would be wasted by the Chain Stitch? Ans. $24,000,000.

Prob. 6. What value would be wasted by the Double Chain Stitch? Ans. $45,000,000.

Prob. 7. If there are 80,000 families in the United States, how much would it cost to send each a CWT. of thread at 50 cts. per lb? Ans. $20,000.

Prob. 8. How much to send a monthly magazine at $2.50 per year? Ans. $30.

Prob. 9. How much would equal to the $45,000,000 of waste for missionary, educational and charitable purposes? Ans. $24,000,000.

Prob. 10. What is waste in this? Yes.

Then what sewing machine should be used? Ans. WHEELER & WILSON'S LOCK STITCH SEWING MACHINE.

Where can these machines be purchased? Ans. ARUNER & CO'S. No. 27 Fifth street.

By Special Permission of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue,

BENEVOLENT

Recommended by some of the Best Men in the State,

To be drawn Publicly at MULBERRY, Clermont County, Ohio, on February 23d, 1867, sooner or later, as the Tickets may be sold.

TICKET HOLDERS SECURED.

For further particulars send for Circular or Ticket to

TUDOR GATES & CO., Mulberry, Clermont County, Ohio.

RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED.

OHIO GIFT ENTERPRISE.

FOR SALE.—THE SUBSCRIBER offers for sale his property in the Borough of Singleton, Venango county, consisting of one

First Class Hotel,

With WAREHOUSE attached to it, situated at the Allegheny Wharf, at the end of the Bridge, and very convenient to where the Railroad Depot is located. One of the best new BARNS in the country, well calculated for the Tavern purposes and Livery Stable. Also, one

SEW BREWERY,

With all the apparatus—only a few months in use—all in complete order, and an abundance of water, with Hydrant to protect the building from fire.

This property will be sold in part or the whole, and on reasonable terms. Title indisputable. Call or write any person or persons to take notice of. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber, living on the premises. S. KREIS.

ALL KINDS OF

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Such as Books, Cartes de Visite, Colored and Plain Stereoscopic Charms, French Transparent Cards, Microscopic Charms, Cards of stamming Lapper goods for sale by Catalogue to C. O. D. Agents desired. Send for Catalogue to C. O. BROOKS, Universal Post Office, New York City. Goods sent by Express C. O. D.

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Blandys' Steam Engine Works,

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Or

Blandys' Portable Engine Works,

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Portable Steam Saw Mills,

The most popular and successful in the world—strictly portable—no brick or stone work in setting—traversing log or sit-ut wagons—WARRANTED to cut from six to ten thousand feet per day. Mills have been in operation 10 years and still almost as good as new.

Blandy's Portable Engines and Saw Mills are in operation in every State of the Union, and in almost every country in the world. They are usually transported as freight upon cars or boats.

In writing to us please state Postoffice County and State, distinctly, and please state in what paper you saw this advertisement.

For illustrated circulars, with descriptions, prices and reports of operators, address the manufacturers,

H. & F. BLANDY,

Blandys' Steam Engine Works,

ZANESVILLE, OHIO.

Or Blandys' Portable Engine Works,

NEWARK, OHIO.

AMENDATORY TARIFF BILL

To be Reported To-Day.

Tax on Advertising Removed.

$1,000 Income to be Exempt.

WASHINGTON, February 10.—The Committee of Ways and Means will probably to morrow report the amendatory internal tax bill, based on the theory of getting rid of the general tax on manufacturing at the earliest possible moment, but the wants of the government this year will not permit it to be done at once, hence the principle is to be gradual in its operations. To partially carry out this object, the Committee propose to exempt from tax all articles which enter largely into the cost of living: for instance salt, leather, tin, earthen pott